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'ARAFAT MEETS SYRIAN, PALESTINIAN, LEBANESE LEADERS

Meeting With Khaddam

JN301530Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1400 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, today met in Damascus with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The meeting was attended on the Palestinian side by brothers 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar and Talal Naji, members of the PLO Executive Committee; and brother Abu Mahir, member of the Fatah Central Committee.

During the meeting, a discussion was held to review the outcome of the recent tour President Hafiz al-Asad made, on behalf of the pan-Arab Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation, to Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. The conferees also dealt with recent development in the situation on the Arab and international levels, especially the increasing Arab popular rejection of the results of the Camp David agreements. The conferees also discussed the capitulationist scheme of the Egyptian regime as well as the situation in the Lebanese area.

The radio correspondent has learned that during the meeting a telephone call was made between Brother Abu 'Ammar and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. It was agreed to resume meetings after the return of President al-Asad from his official visit to the GDR and then the Soviet Union.

Chairs Palestinian Meeting

JN011106Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1000 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, yesterday presided over a joint meeting in Damascus of the PLO Executive Committee and of the secretaries of the Palestinian resistance movement factions.

During the meeting, a general study was made of the situation on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels. The conferees also discussed methods to face the conspiracies aimed at the Palestinian revolution as well as at the Front of Steadfastness and Confrontation. They also reviewed the means necessary to establish national unity and discussed plans for further moves on the Arab and international levels.

Meeting With Lebanese Nationalist Movement

JN291636Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 28 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar met last night with the Executive Committee of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. The meeting dealt with a discussion of the current situation in the local and Arab arenas.

Meeting With Lebanese Prime Minister

JN301225Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1000 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Yesterday brother Abu 'Ammar met with Dr Salim al-Huss, Lebanese prime minister.

The meeting was attended by brother Abu Iyad, member of the Fatah Central Committee, and brother Col Abu Musa, deputy chief of the central operations room.

During the meeting, which lasted for about an hour and a half, a discussion was held on the current developments on the Lebanese, Arab and world levels.

KUWAIT PAPER ON CHANGES IN PLA COMMAND

NC030851Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0808 GMT 3 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 3 October--The Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM reports today that the leaders of the Palestinian resistance and the PLO have agreed on effecting changes in the Palestine Liberation Army military command, including the appointment of Col Mustafa Sa'd ad-Din as commander of the army in place of Brig Gen Misbah al-Budayri.

The paper notes that the PLO, during the (?crisis) in Palestinian-Syrian relations during the Lebanese war last year, asked for the removal of Brig Gen al-Budayri from the command of the Palestine Liberation Army.

FATAH CENTRAL COMMITTEE DECIDES TO REMAIN IN SESSION

JN291632Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to Arab World 1600 GMT 29 Sep 78 JN

[Text] The Central Committee of the Fatah movement met in Damascus last night and discussed the current situation and the grave results of the Camp David summit conference. It also discussed the results of the steadfastness and confrontation summit conference which recently ended in Damascus.

The Fatah Central Committee adopted several measures and decisions to confront the coming stage on the Palestinian, Arab and international levels.

It has been decided that these meetings will remain in session to follow the situation.

PFLP'S HABASH ASKS PLO DEFINITION OF CAMP DAVID POSITION

JN291935Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 29 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 29 September--Dr George Habash, secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, [PFLP], has asked the PLO Command to define its position clearly on the liquidationist settlement and its various schemes and to reject Resolutions 242 and 338.

In a statement published here today, Dr Habash described the Camp David agreements as complete capitulation to the Zionist onslaught and its objectives. He added that the success of these agreements will require the crushing of all Arab forces hostile to them. For this reason, imperialists will make tremendous efforts to implement these agreements.

HABASH: ATTACKS TO BE MADE ON U.S. INTERESTS IN ISRAEL

AU302026Y Rome ANSA in English 1915 GMT 30 Sep 78 AU

[Text] Paris, September 30 (ANSA)--Palestinian leader George Habash has announced that guerrilla attacks will be made on United States interests in Israel to protest the Camp David accords.

Habash made the threat in an interview to the French weekly LE POINT which will appear on newsstands [?Monday]. [Words indistinct] also predicted an "explosion" between "progressive Arabs and their enemies". Habash said that his movement had stopped foreign actions, including international air hijacking. Since [words indistinct].

PFLP SPOKESMAN WARNS OF U.S. ARMS TO LEBANESE RIGHTISTS

JN291352Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1315 GMT 29 Sep 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 29 September--Bassam Abu Sharif, spokesman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, has warned of the presence of Zionist experts in the ranks of the rightwing militias in Lebanon. Abu Sharif called on the Lebanese Nationalist Movement and the Palestinian resistance to prepare to confront a new fascist onslaught.

In a statement he made today, Abu Sharif said that the United States' moves in the area are not confined to the West Bank but are also directed against Lebanon. The rightwing militias have received U.S. weapons through the Zionist enemy.

GULF CONTACTS UNDERWAY TO CONVENE ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE

JN021958Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1940 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 2 October--The GULF NEWS AGENCY has learned that intensive contacts are currently taking place among the Gulf states with the aim of holding consultations to convene an Arab summit conference to study the current Arab situation and restore Arab solidarity.

Official sources confirmed here tonight that telephone contact took place this morning between His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the ruler of the state of Bahrain, and President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr. They had consultations on the curent Arab situation following the statement issued by the Iraqi Revolution Command Council last night.

The GULF NEWS AGENCY has also learned that contacts took place today among His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah, the prime minister of the state of Bahrain; Iraqi Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn; Saudi Arabia's Regent and Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz; and Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah with the aim of adopting clear and definite stands toward the convening of an urgent Arab summit conference.

KUWAIT

IRAQ'S SADDAM HUSAYN ARRIVES FOR VISIT

JN031052Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1045 GMT 3 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 3 October--Revolution Command Council Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn arrived here this afternoon. Saddam Husayn was accorded a mammoth official reception at the airport. He was received by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah, crown prince and prime minister, and a number of high-ranking officials.

CABINET DISCUSSES PROSPECTS FOR ARAB SUMMIT

LD021054Y Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpts] The Council of Ministers held its weekly session this morning under the chairmanship of His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah.

The cabinet acquainted itself with a number of political reports concerning the current development of events in the region. It came to the conclusion that there is now an urgent need for efforts to be made toward a unified inter-Arab action to unite ranks and prevent marginal and regional quarrels and the prevailing divisions in the Arab homeland from becoming a tolerated fait accompli.

For this reason Kuwait, which has always believed in the usefulness of inter-Arab encounters at all levels to discuss the problems of our nation and realizes the importance of the grave phase being experienced by the Arab homeland, welcomes the proposals of the Iraqi republic that consultations be held in order to call for a well-prepared Arab summit to discuss the current Arab situation and to take the necessary measures to enable the Arabs to recover their cohesion to allow the Arab nation to retrieve its dignity and to facilitate the formulation of an adequante strategy for joint Arab action.

CARTER'S PROPOSAL ON LEBANON REPORTEDLY QUESTIONED

NC030916Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0820 GMT 3 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 3 October--The Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN today says that Kuwait has expressed reservations regarding U.S. President Jimmy Carter's proposal calling on the Riyadh conference states to participate in finding a settlement to the Lebanese crisis. The paper says that the Kuwaiti reservations are the result of Washington's insistence on having Israel participate in every meeting held to discuss the Lebanese crisis.

The paper adds that Kuwait does not agree to participate in any work or meeting with which Israel has any connection. The paper says that the Kuwaiti Government has carried out contacts with some of the Arab capitals which had participated in the Riyadh minisummit conference and, as a result of these contacts, the views of these states were identical to those of Kuwait in this respect.

It is worth noting that the states which participated in the Riyadh conference last year were Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Jordan and the PLO.

OMAN

KING HUSAYN ARRIVES IN OMAN FROM QATAR

JN021919Y Ammam Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn arrived in Salalah from Doha today on a visit to the Sultanate of Oman as part of his majesty's tour of several fraternal Arab countries. His Majesty King Husayn will hold talks with his brother His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman, on recent developments in the Arab area and relations between Jordan and the Sultanate of Oman.

QATAR

KING HUSAYN ARRIVES IN DOHA FROM BAHRAIN

JN021238Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn arrived in Doha at noon today from Manama on the fourth leg of his tour of Arab states. His majesty was accorded an official reception by His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, as well as by ministers and senior officials. His Majesty King Husayn will hold talks with His Highness Shaykh Khalifah on the latest developments in the Arab region as well as on bilateral relations.

Meets With Officials

JN021651Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn and His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, held talks in the Al-Marmar palace in Doha at noon today. The discussions dealt with recent developments in the Arab area.

His Majesty King Husayn outlined the Jordanian stand and all its dimensions, elements and basic principles. His majesty also outlined the results of his talks with the leaders of the Arab states he has visited in the past 2 days.

Departs for Oman

JN021514Y Doha QNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpt] Doha, 2 October--His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan left Doha at 1530 today for Muscat following his short visit to Qatar of several hours. This visit comes within his current tour in the gulf area.

SAUDI ARABIA

IRAQ'S SADDAM HUSAYN ARRIVES FOR VISIT

LD021830Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Jidda, 2 Oct--His Excellency Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, arrived in Jidda at 1915 today.

His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince, was at the head of those who welcomed him at the airport. As soon as the plane stopped, the deputy head of the royal protocol, Shaykh Mansur al-Khurayji, and the charge d'affaires at the Iraqi Embassy in Saudi Arabia had gone on board the plane to welcome him and accompany him down the staircase.

At the staircase His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz embraced his excellency, who afterward shook hands with the leading welcoming civilian and military figures.

After a short rest at the airport lounge, His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his excellency the great guest left the airport for the guest palace, which was prepared for his stay.

Talks Begin

LD022200Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1949 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Jidda, 2 October--Saudi-Iraqi talks began at the guests palace at Al-Hamra' at 2130 today, with the holding of a closed meeting between His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince, and His Excellency Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council. The SAUDI NEWS AGENCY has learned that the talks dealt with the recent developments in the Middle East and their reflections on the area at the present time. The talks also covered the progress of strengthening cooperation in the field of bilateral r 'ations existing between the two fraternal countries.

Talks End

LD022150Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 2040 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Jidda, 2 Oct--Saudi-Iraqi talks between the Saudi side, headed by Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister, and the Iraqi side, headed by Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council, ended tonight.

It is expected that his excellency will leave Jidda tomorrow morning at the end of his visit to the kingdom.

Saddam Husayn Leaves

JN030951Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0945 GMT 3 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Jidda, 3 October--Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council [RCC], left Jidda this morning following an unexpected 1-day visit to Saudi Arabia, during which he met with Saudi Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

The GULF NEWS AGENCY has learned that the RCC vice chairman left for Kuwait to hold consultations with Kuwaiti officials on the reprecussions of the developments in the Arab area in the wake of the RCC statement calling for holding an immediate Arab summit conference.

SAUDI AID TO EGYPT REPORTEDLY TO CONTINUE

LD291804Y London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29, 30 Sep 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Washington--Special ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT dispatch--Saudi Finance Minister Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl told ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT yesterday that Saudi Arabia does not intend to reduce its aid to Egypt following the outcome of the Camp David conference. "Saudi Arabia," he added, "is quite satisfied with the level of progress in Egyptian development projects, many of which will receive Saudi financial support."

Asked about reports to the effect that several Arab development funds are unhappy with the slow implementation of Egyptian projects, the minister said: "This happened in the past, but now we are satisfied with the rate of implementation."

Other Saudi and Arab sources in Washington have expressed doubts about reports from Damascus to the effect that Saudi Arabia will cut off its military aid to Egypt as an indication of its dissatisfaction with the Camp David accords. A source said: Even individuals do not react so rapidly, let alone states.

UAE

PETROLEUM MINISTER HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN TOKYO

For a report on a press conference held in Tokyo on 29 September by Minister of Petroleum and Natural Resources Dr Mani'ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah at the conclusion of his visit to Japan, see the Japan section of the 2 October Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT.

YEMEN--PDRY

MENA: PDRY BANS AIR SPACE TO SOMALI AIRLINERS

JM021815Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] San'a', 2 October--A spokesman for the Somali airlines has declared in San'a' that the Aden authorities have been preventing the airline's planes flying to San'a' from passing through PDRY air space since last Wednesday. It is understood that the Somali airline has two weekly flights between Mogadiscio and San'a' passing through PDRY air space.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS--His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, regent and crown prince, this morning received the credentials of ambassadors Mohammed Akbar Harwani of Afghanistan, Kacem Bousnina of Tunisia, (Andrew Doiar) of Switzerland, and Tharwat at-Talhuni of Jordan. [Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD]

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT ADDRESSES PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY 2 OCT

JN021047Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0937 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Live speech by President Anwar as-Sadat to joint session of People's Assembly and ASU Central Committee on 2 October]

[Text] In the name of God, brother and sister members of the People's Assembly, members of the Central Committee: We are meeting today to speak about great events. A few days ago was the anniversary of the death of 'Abd an-Nasir. [applause] We are accustomed to meeting to commemorate this occasion. This year, other great events have taken place. We need to sit down and discuss them so that I can place before you, as representatives of the people, the Camp David account, covering everything that happened. At the same time, as a result of these great events we are passing a new juncture in our life, history and struggle. For this reason, I shall try to talk about all these aspects to you.

As for the two Camp David agreements, they have been submitted to the office of your esteemed assembly, and after I explain these two agreements to you, you will give your decision on them.

Regarding the anniversary of 'Abd an-Nasir, I would like to say to you, brothers and sisters, that we are celebrating the anniversary of a great man while we are living great events. We are celebrating the anniversary of a man who gave his people and Arab nation that maximum that can be given by a leader who created a new history for this part of the world.

This is not forgotten in the annals of history. This is a great history written by a revolution on the path of strugglers and by one of the greatest heroes who awakened the world conscience, inflamed the feelings of millions, raised the flags of freedom and development and led the processions of mankind toward man's right to a respectable life and the peoples' right to determine their destiny.

Today we are celebrating the anniversary of 'Abd an-Nasir, leader of the 23 July Revolution. This revolution chose the goal of immortality and continuity through sacrifices, challenge, self-confrontation [muwajahat] and the people's support. This revolution overthrew the rule of tyrants and colonizers, upheld the will of the toilers and changed the map of society to insure equal opportunities, to eliminate the greed of feudalism and to emphasize the right of every citizen to work and earn a living and to rebuild a society which had been torn by oppressive discrepancies and embittered by pains throughout generations of the rule of usurpation and exploitation. 'Abd an-Nasir led the immortal 23 July Revolution and Egypt was ruled for the first time after long dark ages by one of its sons. This was the decisive turning point toward the rule of the people by their will. By free will the people chose their symbol, ruler and head of the Egyptian family.

As the revolutionary experience faced huge internal and external challenges in its difficult march, and as the course of confrontation forced it to commit certain mistakes and sins, the 15 May Revolution which sprang from the 23 July Revolution has also chosen the course of self-confrontation. Thus it was a corrective revolution to insure democratic construction. This revolution achieved constitutional legality and insured all guarantees with a permanent constitution so as to protect this constitutional legality against any aggression, whether deviation to the hateful past prior to the 23 July Revolution or attempts to make Egypt a tool of evil foreign forces that want to destroy Egypt's traditions, morals, faith, will and independence.

Perhaps events have proven to all the sons of the people that the leadership of the people will remain purely Egyptian.

This leadership will remain faithful to Egypt's aims, to benefits for Egypt's sons and soil and to the Egypt of 23 July, Egypt of 15 May, Egypt of 6 October, Egypt of the peace initiative [applause] and Egypt of the peace agreement. With this deep faith which will not waver, God willing, and with this national responsibility toward our holy soil, we have shouldered all the pioneering pan-Arab burdens toward our Arab nation.

Throughout their long history, the Egyptian people have been generous in giving their brothers, the brothers of destiny in the Arab nation, all help and support in times of ease and difficulty without favor or haughtiness, but out of genuine convictions free from slogans and outbiddings. This is the mission of the Egyptian people in their Arab land and with their thousands of years of culture and their geographic position in the heart of the Arab world, their manpower with millions of honest and productive people, and their political status that created the idea of solidarity and the unity of aims and destiny.

The 23 July Revolution emerged to uphold the banner of liberation and salvation not by words and high-sounding phrases, but by the dearest sacrifices and men, by the elite thousands of our young men who sacrificed their blood and souls and opened their breasts in defense of the Arab nation's pride and honor.

The immortal October War took place, with the immortality of the July and May revolutions, to raise the heads of Arabs everywhere, to enhance their dignity and to strengthen their will. We have an obligation here to address greetings to the heroes of our armed forces and to the martyrs. These men offered the most splendid, most honorable, and purest acts of heroism and sacrifice. They also gave our Arab nation in the west, east, south and north a dignified and respected existence after friends, even before our enemies, imagined that the Arab nation had become a dead corpse with no place to go but the graveyard of history. We do not say this out of aloofness, arrogance or appeasement. God forbid that such would be our conscience. But we repeat this today on the anniversary of that giant pioneer whom God chose to call to his side when he, as a human being suffering from the most fatal of illnesses, was exerting the maximum to save the Arab nation from dispersion and division after the well-known 1970 September events in Jordan when Arab blood was shed on Arab land with Arab weapons. Some misled and lost voices in our Arab nation--and I say it with deep regret and pain--did not have mercy on the man during his life. These lost and misled voices directed broadcasts of mockery, defamation and accusations at him. These voices did not have mercy on him even after his death. They are trying today to exploit his memory through lies and deception to stab Egyptian honor, Egyptian will and Egyptian patriotism in the back, as if what the Egyptian people have sacrificed--sacrifices which surpassed the lives of their martyrs and which even affected the Egyptian people's daily lives--were not enough for them.

Brothers and sisters, we still hold to our belief in the honor of the historic responsibility and the sublime flag we raised and under which we wage the most violent battles. This flag will never be pulled from Egyptian hands. This is our historic fate toward which we have striven by adhering to sincerity, loyalty and purity of conscience. This is our greeting to the giant leader who died a martyr in the arena of this historic responsibility.

Brothers and sisters, I know that you are all very eager to hear me speak about the results of the discussions at Camp David. I will begin by saying that the results of the discussions at Camp David are the fruit of two momentous events in the Arab nation's history. The first is the Ramadan war and the second is the Egyptian peace initiative.

Had it not been for the Ramadan October War, there would not have been a peace initiative. My trip to Jerusalem did not proceed from a position of weakness or shakiness. It was crowned with the honor of heroes who sacrificed their lives and gave their bravery as fighters in order to have peace in the land.

In my speech at the Israeli Knesset on 20 November I told the whole world the following: In its search for a just and lasting peace, our nation does not proceed from a position of weakness or shakiness. On the contrary, it possesses components of strength and stability which give it the wisdom for a sincere desire for peace. This wisdom comes from a civilized awareness that in order to avoid an inevitable calamity, we, you and the whole world have no alternative to the establishment of a just and lasting peace unshaken by whims or bad intentions and unhampered by doubts.

In the same speech I told the people of Israel: There was a big high wall separating us, which you tried to build during a quarter century. However, this wall collapsed in 1973. I told them: It was a wall of continuously blazing and escalating psychological war. It was a wall of intimidations and threats of the ability to overrun the Arab nation from one end to the other. It was a wall propagating the rumor that our nation had been transformed into a motionless corpse. Some of you even said that even after 50 years the Arabs would not be able to stand on their own feet again.

I told them all this in the Knesset using these very words. I said: It was a wall threatening us with annihilation and destruction if we ever tried to use our legitimate right to liberate our occupied land. I said: We should admit together that this wall collapsed and was destroyed in 1973. This is exactly what I said to the Israeli Knesset. Millions in the whole world listened to my speech with a hope which was an impossible one--namely the hope for peace.

Brothers and sisters, the peace initiative was not a television show to excite superficial emotions, as alleged by some adolescents; nor was it a show of capitulation, as the outbidders claim.

The peace initiative was not a deceitful shining torch which was put out and then disappeared in darkness. The peace initiative, as world leaders have admitted, was a unique historic event which challenged a terrible dam of hatred, bitterness and black feelings which had accumulated and increased over a 30-year period. It was natural for this dam built by bodies and blood to be shaken, and there arose in its place a new sign of hope that the October War would be the last. The whole world was repeating the good news.

All the forces influencing the course of the world supported the Egyptian initiative. The will of peace achieved victory. Therefore, I tell you also that had it not been for the peace initiative, the Camp David conference would not have taken place. Had it not been for the peace initiative, the president of the strongest and richest country in the world would not have decided to devote his full-time efforts to the cause of peace for some 2 weeks, isolated from all his responsibilities with the exception of that of establishing peace. This is a precedent unknown in American history and has never been done by the head of state of a big power. [applause]

President Carter, as I told the American people, introduced a new system to cope with the most dangerous international problem. This system is worth following if the world leaders want to spare the peoples of the world the woes of sharp disputes, continuous tension, anxiety and cold wars.

Nevertheless, the peace talks at Camp David, brothers and sisters, were not easy or flexible. Violent storms were about to cripple them until the early hours of the last day. Perhaps you have heard that on the Friday 2 days before the end of the conference, I decided to leave Camp David for Washington. Had it not been for the intervention of President Carter and his persistence, wisdom and honest truthful words, we would not have been able to place our feet on the proper path leading, God willing and through good will, to a genuine and lasting peace. [applause]

While we were in Washington, I told the American people that they should be proud of their President. From this platform I say to our people that our history and the history of the human struggle will place President Carter in the forefront of the world leaders who have changed the face of history from hatred to love and from wars to peace. [applause]

On your behalf and on behalf of our people, from this platform I extend the invitation to President Carter to visit Egypt [applause] to sign the peace agreement. I have no doubt for one moment that every Egyptian man and woman will await this visit to express great appreciation to a great man.

Brothers and sisters, at Camp David we had our Egyptian plan which has been published and broadcast. There was also an Israeli plan which we did not accept at all. There was also a U.S. position between the two sides which sought through enormous continuous efforts to make the conference achieve positive steps paving the way toward the establishment of peace. Our position was based on firm facts from which we have not deviated. The first fact was that we went to Camp David committed to all the Arab and international charters: complete liberation of the land, adherence to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, and a firm belief in a permanent, just and stable peace that cannot be shaken by emotions or whims.

The second fact was that we did not go to Camp David to seek the conclusion of a separate agreement between Egypt and Israel. The problem is not only Egypt and Israel. Any separate peace between Egypt and Israel or between any Arab frontline state and Israel will not establish lasting and just peace in the whole area. As a matter of fact, I said more than once to you and in my speech in the Knesset that even if peace were to be achieved between all the Arab frontline states and Israel, without a just solution to the Palestine problem, that would not achieve the lasting peace the whole world insists on.

The third fact was that we did not accept the invitation to Camp David in order to seek a partial solution, in the sense that we would end the state of war at this stage and then postpone the entire problem to another stage. This is not a radical solution taking us to lasting peace.

The fourth fact was that we did not go to Camp David in order to agree on a third disengagement in Sinai, or on the Golan Heights and the West Bank. This would only delay the sparking of the fuse.

Thus, brothers and sisters, the talks followed two parallel lines. The first line was a basis for talks toward a comprehensive, just solution with all Arab states, particularly Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt and the Palestinians. The second line was a peace framework agreement suitable as a basis for talks toward a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel.

The document of the first framework invites all the Arab frontline states--Syria, Jordan and Lebanon--to participate in the negotiations and to conclude peace treaties on the same bases which decided the framework of the negotiations for the just and comprehensive solution in its general guidelines and the peace framework between Egypt and Israel.

Furthermore, this document, which is the document of the comprehensive solution, included more detailed guidelines on the Palestinian issue, although it left it up to negotiations by the concerned sides to discuss other points. We agreed to base the negotiations between Egypt and Israel, which will end in less than 3 months as regards withdrawal from Sinai, on the same basis as the negotiations which would take place between Syria and Israel as regards withdrawal from the Golan Heights, because the nature of the problem concerning Sinai is the same nature of the problem as regards the Golan Heights. This is what was stated in our first plan, which I mentioned to you at the beginning of my talk.

The matter is then up to the Syrian officials to choose and decide what they want, and they must then face their people and history, particularly since we have drawn up the bases of the comprehensive settlement, and what applies to Sinai automatically applies to the Golan Heights.

As for Jordan, it was invited to participate in the negotiations which would decide the future of the West Bank and Gaza in the presence of the representatives of the Palestinian people--the owners of the land and right.

As for Lebanon, it was invited to participate in the negotiations which would define the future of the peace relationship with Israel.

This was the general line which we adhered to at Camp David in accordance with the general principles which would lead us to the path of the comprehensive solution and the achievement of a just and durable peace.

If we take the matter in terms of the details that have been decided upon, this is what has happened: Under the first framework--the agreement on the peace framework which lays down the bases of negotiations for the comprehensive solution--there are two points as regards the Palestinian problem and the rights of the Palestinian people, out of appreciation that the Palestinian problem is the crux of the issue.

The first point is related to what should be achieved through negotiations after 3 months only. It defines the principles which should govern the rights of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and Gaza during a transitional 5-year period.

The second point is related to negotiations which should take place 2 years later and 3 years before the end of the transitional period. It is related to determining the future of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and outside the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Jordan has been invited to these negotiations, which can begin immediately. Furthermore, Jordan has been invited to these negotiations that would take place during the transitional period, together with the representatives of the Palestinian people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and other Palestinians as well as Egypt and Israel.

The negotiations of the transitional period which can begin immediately are based on the establishment of the following new conditions:

First, complete self-rule for the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip based on free elections;

Second, an end to Israeli military and civil rule immediately and as soon as the autonomous Palestinian authority is elected;

Third, the complete autonomous rule of the Palestinian authority will replace the military and civil government in all the affairs it is running;

Fourth, withdrawal of the Israeli armed forces from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip to a specific position which they will not go beyond. These positions will be for Israel's security;

Fifth, a strong local police force will be formed from the Palestinian inhabitants of the West Bank and Gaza. It was also provided that this force can include Jordanian citizens on the basis that a large number of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have obtained Jordanian nationality;

Sixth, joint patrols of Jordanian and Israeli forces will form observation posts to insure the security of the borders during the transitional period.

Ending the Israeli military rule and the establishment of Palestinian rule means that the thousands of Palestinian prisoners and detainees will be released immediately.

If we move to the negotiations that will take place in 2 years, which is the second stage during the transitional period, representatives of the Palestinian people, Jordan, Egypt and Israel will participate in these negotiations to take place on the following bases stipulated in the agreement:

1. Negotiations to solve all aspects of the Palestinian problem as is stipulated in the agreement--the political aspect and the humanitarian aspect relating to the refugees problem; the final status of the West Bank and the [Gaza] sector--self-determination--will be determined.

2. The solution resulting from the negotiations must recognize the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their just requirements precisely stipulated.

3. The negotiations will be based on Security Council Resolution 242 with all its provisions.

4. A joint committee of the representatives of the Palestinians, Egypt, Jordan and Israel to decide on permitting the return of the Palestinians who left the [West] Bank and [Gaza] sector.

5. The formation of a committee from Egypt, Israel and other sides to prepare the measures for a quick, just and permanent implementation to solve the problem of the refugees.

Another extremely important principle was stipulated; that is, an agreement on the final status of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip will be put to the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza for a vote; that is, the Palestinian people have the right to veto [As-Sadat uses both Arabic and English words] this agreement. They also have the right to reject it if they find that the agreement does not fulfill their legitimate aspirations.

This is clearly stipulated in the first document we signed at Camp David. This means that nothing will and nothing can be imposed on the Palestinian people.

Brothers and sisters, these are the advantages of the first agreement on the framework for the comprehensive solution. However, there are two subjects which were not defined by the framework for peace agreement. The first is the question of Jerusalem and the second is the question of sovereignty over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

Brothers and sisters, I will not be revealing a secret when I say that the question of Jerusalem was stipulated in the agreement until the last day of the discussions. But I found out that the provision does not very clearly express the historic Arab right in Jerusalem--a right which conforms with the hopes of 700 million Arabs and Moselms throughout the world.

I will not be revealing a secret when I say that the U.S. position on Jerusalem is fully identical with our position. Therefore, I asked that the provision on Jerusalem be removed from the agreement and that the question be left to negotiations but that the positions of the various sides be defined immediately. It was decided that we would exchange letters with the U.S. President on the opinions of Egypt, Israel and the United States as contained in the U.S. President's reply to our letter and to that of Israel.

These letters have been made public. The U.S. President, in his letter to me and in his letter to the Israeli prime minister, admits that the U.S. position on the question of Jerusalem, which is identical to our position, as I have told you, is the same position it announced at the UN General Assembly on 14 September 1967. The United States reaffirmed this position at the Security Council on 1 September 1969. This U.S. position is precisely that Arab Jerusalem is a part of the West Bank and that any changes which Israel introduced in Arab Jerusalem to change its status are null, void and illegal. [applause]

At the same time President Carter received a letter from me asserting Egypt's position on Jerusalem, which is as follows, and we presented it in the Camp David talks:

First, Arab Jerusalem is an indivisible part of the West Bank. Therefore, the legitimate and historic rights of the Arabs to the city must be respected and restored.

Second, Arab Jerusalem must be under Arab sovereignty.

Third, it is the right of the Palestinian residents in Jerusalem to exercise all their legitimate national rights in their capacity as an indivisible part of the Palestinian people in the West Bank.

Fourth, the resolutions issued by the UN Security Council, particularly Resolutions 242 and 267, must be applied with regard to Jerusalem. All measures taken by Israel to change the status of the city must be considered null and void and their effects must be canceled.

Fifth, all peoples must have free access to Jerusalem and to exercise religious rites and the right to visit the holy places without any discrimination.

Sixth, it is permissible to place the holy places of each of the three religions under the administration and supervision of the representatives of that religion.

Seventh, essential jobs in the city must not be separated.

It is possible to establish a mixed municipal council comprising equal numbers of Arabs and Israelis to supervise the implementation of these jobs. Thus, the city shall not be divided.

This, in particular detail, was Egypt's position in the Camp David talks and in the letters exchanged between me and the American President, as you read before.

Regarding the subject of sovereignty over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip after the transitional period, the agreement provides that the subject shall be left to negotiations after the establishment of autonomy and the participation of the Palestinians in the right of self-determination and their right to veto any decision by free voting.

Our opinion on this was not secret or crooked in the talks. To be more exact, in one of the tripartite meetings between me and President Carter and Mr Begin, I told Mr Begin before President Carter as witness: Israel cannot claim for itself the right to sovereignty over the Palestinian land in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Sovereignty over the West Bank and the Gaza Strip belongs to those who reside on this land, that is, the Palestinian people. I am announcing all this clearly and publicly so those who do not want to understand may understand.

Brothers and sisters, these are the results of the Camp David talks, which specify autonomy for the Palestinians so they can rule themselves by themselves in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip; which end Israeli military and civilian rule; which decide the withdrawal of the Israeli military forces to specific zones for security reasons; which acknowledge the legitimate rights of the Palestinians; which permit those who left the land to return to it; which give the Palestinians the right to determine their own destiny and which specify all future situations after the transitional period through negotiations. It is the right of the Palestinian people to object to these results through free elections.

In our opinion, these are positive steps to be decided for the first time since Israel's occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. They put the march of the comprehensive solution on the right course. We believe that it is the responsibility of every Arab who is interested in liberating the land and asserting the Palestinian people's rights to their land; I say it is the responsibility of every Arab to participate in these steps so as to achieve our hopes.

Negative positions are useless in our contemporary world when trying to solve age-old problems. The position which does not move soon finds itself going backward. This has been our experience over the past 30 years. We have not been moving and at the same time we have been differing on the other side of this age-old crisis; people may have differed but they agree completely once they move.

Shaking the status quo is the only means to prevent it from freezing and growing roots. Slogans alone and rejectionist cries alone will not achieve anything or present an alternative solution. They only enable the status quo to grow firmer so that with time we lose all ability to change this status quo. This is Egypt's opinion.

I really pity our people in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip who are exposed to these Arab outbiddings around them. The wives of these people met me in the Dome of the Rock during the last 'Id al-Adha feast after I performed the 'Id prayer in Al-Aqsa Mosque. These wives cried: Where are the Arab officials? They left us alone for 10 years. Our sons are in detention camps. Our husbands are in detention camps. Our brothers are in detention camps while they capitalize on our cause.

This was what I heard from our people and women in the Dome of the Rock during the last 'Id al-Adha. It is the right of every Arab to say no. We have said no more than once. But it is the right of the Arab land and it is the right of the Palestinian people to ask every rejectionist Arab to produce the alternative solution, or to help in the liberation, or to embark on the difficult jihad.

It is easy to compete by using inflamed and resounding words in speeches. It is easy to put on the garb of heroism by words and cries and then find that it is our shoulders, not those of others, assuming the burdens of inaction; that we are moving several steps backward, doubling the burdens on our Arab people generation after generation, while differences continue and disintegration drives us to the abyss.

Those who are paying the exorbitant and bitter price are our sons and brothers, the men, women and children of the West Bank. They are the Palestinian people, who have been suffering the woes of occupation in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip since 1967. They are the young men who have been jailed in prisons and detention camps and who have no hope of release.

If we today end the rule of the Israeli military occupation and obtain the right for the Palestinian people to rule themselves and determine their future, shall we say no? Who says this?

Those who say no are those who do not suffer the bitterness of military rule and prisons. They are those who fight among each other with the weapons of assassination and reciprocal accusations of treason. This is what led them to the massacres in which Palestinian and Arab blood was shed. These are the people who say no.

Who is responsible for Palestinian blood in Tall az-Za'tar? Who is responsible for the blood of the Palestinian men, women and children in the buildings blown up in Beirut? Shall we say no to the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from the West Bank and Gaza sector to specific positions which they will not go beyond? Shall we say no to negotiations that will determine the future of the bank and the sector and determine the destiny of Jerusalem and the Palestinian people on the basis of UN resolutions? Shall we say no to the return of the evacuated Palestinians to the bank and the sector? Shall we say no to a sound beginning that will prepare the sound course to a complete and comprehensive solution to the problem?

Brothers and sisters, from this forum of the Egyptian people, who are an indivisible part of their Arab nation, I sincerely call on all sides to participate in building this great historic development. I call upon them to listen with pure hearts as I listened during my visit to Jerusalem and said the Al-Adha feast prayer in Al-Aqsa Mosque. I call upon them to listen to the sighs and moans of mothers, wives and sisters and to their weeping while they appeal to all Arabs outside the occupied land to feel their pain and the hardships of their lives. I call upon them to hasten to take positive action that will remove from our people their bitter suffering known only to those who live under military occupation and in the darkness of prisons and detention camps.

I call on King Husayn to fulfill his responsibility. I call on those responsible in Syria to take part in the negotiations for withdrawal from the Golan. This matter has been completely arranged, because what applies to Sinai will definitely apply to the Golan. I call on the Palestinian leaders in the PLO and others to stop their disputes and agree on one thing. Statements issued by one organization against the other or the world reading a statement by one Palestinian organization accusing Yasir 'Arafat and saying he does not represent anyone but himself will not serve the cause of the Palestinian people.

Brothers and sisters, allow me to say with all bitterness and regret that this is strange action at a serious time. Today we take the Arab area to a new history, present and future. Thus we must behave in a new way. I call on the rest of the Arab brothers, who have played positive roles in supporting the Arab struggle, to understand with us the realities of this new historic stage and participate in opinion and action and listen with an open heart to the correct description of everything we did at the Camp David conference.

We do not make claims, mislead or quibble about words. We do not claim to have achieved a comprehensive solution, because the Camp David conference was not the place for a comprehensive solution. The Camp David conference was designed to achieve a framework for a sound course to a complete and comprehensive solution through negotiations among the parties. We can say that we have paved the way to this comprehensive solution. We stand on new thresholds with genuine advantages, which are the fruit of continuous moves and struggle.

At the Camp David meeting, we established an ever-renewing driving force which can achieve confidence and remove the fears of 30 years of blood and grudges so as to open the way for a sound move toward peace based on justice.

At Camp David we demolished a stagnation which might have continued and might have been transformed into a fait accompli. We destroyed this stagnation without shedding one drop of blood. Why do they want this stagnation to return through the perpetuation of Arab differences?

While making this sincere appeal to its Arab brothers, Egypt affirms to them that the Camp David decisions did not deviate from the Rabat resolutions. The first secret provision of the Rabat resolutions was to seek to liberate the Arab land occupied in 1967. I believe we have reached the principles of the sound course. We have made some strides on the course toward the conclusion of agreements not involving Egypt alone, but also Jordan, Syria, the Palestinians and Lebanon. This is the road leading to liberation of the Arab territories occupied after 1967 [as heard] and mentioned in the first secret decision of the Rabat resolutions.

The Rabat resolutions stipulated that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. What has happened since 1974, when these resolutions were passed? Since the issuance of this decision, the PLO leadership has had several international opportunities--to which Egypt and several Arab states contributed--to adopt the course of peace and realize Palestinian rights by relying on a unified Arab viewpoint and international support to the creation of which Egypt has made all possible efforts.

This international stand in support of the Palestinian cause was created thanks to Egypt's open call for this in the largest international forum of the United Nations.

However, time was wasted on differences. They refrained from confrontation for the sake of outbiddings. Then painful infighting began among Palestinians, Syrians and Palestinians. Despite this I reiterate my call to them for unity of opinion. I do not believe that they object to ending the suffering of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories. This is what I believe, like any sane person in the world. I do not believe that they object to any genuine contribution to paving the way for a comprehensive solution, unless there are other intentions unknown to us, which would explain a lot of behavior.

Egypt sought to protect the fateful issue against the continuation of the deadlock and against revolving in a vicious circle of differences and accusations such as have been exchanged by the leaders ever since the Palestinian problem arose.

For the sake of this, Egypt launched the peace initiative. Egypt fought before it spoke. Egypt did not do any outbiddings, but destroyed the barriers and walls. No one ever dictated to Egypt to capitulate, but Egypt dictated the will of peace. Egypt gave what it could and more than it could and is calling for solidarity while constructing the sound course. Egypt did not lose its patience and wisdom. Egypt did not complain about its sacrifices or responsibilities in order to unify the more difficult struggle--the struggle for peace. Before and since, Egypt has never entered into the war of words.

They are bemoaning Arab solidarity today. Moscow Radio is composing slogans for them. The Russian leader says that the Camp David agreement is a betrayal of the Arabs so that the parrots will repeat this after him. Here before you and from your platform, I address a question to Mr Brezhnev. What would have been his description if we had accepted while we were defeated--before the October battle--the offer of the Soviet leadership that I sit down with Golda Meir in Tashkent? What would have been his description? A little bashfulness and humility, but they do not know bashfulness and humility. I greatly regret that there are sons from my country and some of my sons repeating their talk like parrots.

What is taking place in the Arab arena today and in the camp led by the Soviet Union? Syria is striking at Lebanon. It entered Lebanon and liquidated the Palestinians in Tall az-Za'tar and struck at the Moslems. Some time later, Syria turned its back on the Christians. Later, Syria became more involved in Lebanon and the weapons in the hands of the Syrian Army became weapons to strike at the Palestinians and to liquidate the Lebanese. Is this not what their camp is--the camp of the Soviet Union--steadfastness, rejection and all the slogans and words used?

In the Maghreb, there is a painful tragedy going on between Algeria and Morocco in which Arab is fighting Arab brother with Soviet arms which were given to Algeria.

In this front is so-called Southern Yemen. It is not worth saying anything about, particularly since it has become a Soviet base and sold itself, its land and honor.

As for Iraq, which wanted to give a gift of $5 billion yesterday, it was only yesterday that it remembered that Egypt is beset by a crisis and needs aid.

The dispute between us and this front is multifaceted. The main reason for the dispute is that this country represents a danger and threat to all these regimes. In Syria, there is physical liquidation, Al-Mazzah prison and detention camps.

In Iraq, we see dragging, physical liquidation and death sentences. In Libya, I do not have to speak about what is happening there at the hands of the mad child. In Algeria, there are detention camps and prisons.

In addition to the fact that we bear all this trust, the trust of our Arab nation in the question of fate, we also bear a bigger and more splendid trust. This trust is that the Arab man should live free on his land. There is democracy here in Egypt. Egypt is an island of security and safety. We here in Egypt care for man's dignity. [applause] They fear this more than anything else, but as we promised ourselves, we will continue to bear the trust and carry the message.

Today, I tell the Arab brothers and emphasize to them that we will not answer the slanders of anyone who attacks and defames us. But we tell our Arab nation that we invite it to proceed with us along the road which we started in order to establish the responsibility without any squandering, to restore the usurped right without spilling one drop of blood, and to establish a real, durable and just peace in the Arab land. This will permit the Arab man to build anew in our cultural revolution to compensate for what has been lost and rise with the Arab force which has become the sixth force in the post-October world--a world which depends on science and knowledge in its extraordinary dazzling daily and even hourly progress.

Despite this, I declare to our people and to you from this rostrum of yours: This is what Egypt has been able to realize at this stage and if the no's [the rejectionist states] by their alliance with the Soviet Union can achieve more, then we will support and applaud them [applause], and even thank them. If any Arab leadership can lead us to all our aspirations, then we will be the first to tell it yes in all sincerity, purity and true support. Almighty God is correct when He says: The blind and the seeing are not alike; nor are the depths of darkness and the light; nor are the chilly shade and the genial heat of the sun; nor are those that are living and that are dead. God can make any that He wills to hear; but Thou cans't make those to hear who lie buried in graves. [applause]

Brothers and sisters: I will now move to the second part of the Camp David resolutions.

[At this point a commotion breaks out in the People's Assembly and As-Sadat is heard to say: "This is against bylaws. My son, I sat on this platform. This is against the bylaw." The commotion, however, continues and As-Sadat is heard saying again: "My son, my son, my son." At this point, the People's Assembly speaker is heard to say: "There is a special session." The commotion continues and As-Sadat is heard to say: "Listen O son, I have accustomed you to be frank but I reject rudeness. To continue the talk, I request the People's Assembly speaker to take his votes on his departure," an apparent reference to the person causing the commotion at the assembly, "because he is not fit to be in the midst of the Egyptian family." The commotion however continues and the person is heard shouting in protest. The People's Assembly speaker is then heard asking the members to take their seats and President As-Sadat continues to speak. He says: "Let us continue our work. Since I began delivering my speech, it has been evident that there were plans to stage a demonstration. I wanted to speak to you about it after completing the speech. This is against the bylaws and moreover it is a departure from sound democratic conduct. It is against the bylaw. You will remember that I spoke to you here about shamelessness and the law on shamelessness. I was astonished once when I was in the United States this last time. When I had free time once, I followed a session of a U.S. Congressional Committee, called the Ethics Committee. I hope your new bylaw, God willing, will provide for the formation of such an ethics committee so that you yourselves may call to account anyone among you who departs from any values, ideals, ethics or conduct. These things are practiced in the democracies there, as I told you. It was intended that this demonstration should be exploited abroad. The person involved could have gone to the competent committee which will discuss this speech and the agreements and said what he wanted. However, this demonstration, as I said, regrettably goes beyond the limits of democracy and ethics. Therefore, I hope that your bylaw will tackle such indidents, God willing."]

Regarding the second part of the agreement--the framework for a solution--between Egypt and Israel, our discussions, brothers and sisters, at Camp David on the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel were not divorced from the peace treaties between Israel and the other confrontation states--Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. We were in the process of laying down general lines defining the principles on which the steps to permanent peace and a comprehensive solution would be based. The principles of the second agreement relating to the permanent peace between Egypt and Israel should not last more than 3 months, after which the implementation of the peace treaty would immediately begin.

The Israeli prime minister, Mr Begin, said at the celebration held in the White House on the occasion of the signing of the two agreements on the framework of peace by President Carter, Mr Begin and me, that he will act to end the negotiations in only 2 months. President Carter also said the same thing in his historic sppech to the U.S. Congress when he told the entire world that the Middle East is on the threshold of peace and that what looked like an impossible dream a few weeks earlier has become an established fact.

I also take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to the members and chairman of the U.S. Congress [applause] who overwhelmed me with their great appreciation beyond all limits of my imagination. I do not consider this appreciation as a greeting to myself, but a great greeting to the people of Egypt, who surrounded with great love and encouraged my steps in their name and for their sake in order that peace may prevail on earth. My thanks and gratitude to the members of the U.S. Congress are a sincere expression of the gratitude of the Egyptian people for the men who carried out a creative role in the quest for peace.

Brothers and sisters, the peace treaty negotiations between Egypt and Israel will begin, God willing, some time soon this month. The aim of the negotiations will be to draw up the executive steps for the following principles:

1. The total withdrawal of the Israeli forces from every inch of the homeland in Sinai. [applause]

2. Full recognition of total Egyptian sovereignty up to the international borders between Egypt and Palestine during the mandate.

3. The return of all military airfields to Egypt, including huge airbases which the Israelis established during the years of occupation. These airfields will be turned into civilian airports in the possession of Egypt. These airfields are located near Al-'Arish, Rafat, Ra's an-Naqab, and Sharm ash-Shaykh.

The withdrawal of the Israeli forces will take place in two stages. The first stage will take place within 3 to 9 months from the signing of the treaty. The withdrawal will be to a line extending from a point east of Al-'Arish to Ra's Muhammad. This area, from which the first withdrawal will begin in less than 5 months, constitutes approximately 60 percent of Sinai. The second and final stage of the total withdrawal to the international borders will take place within a period to be precisely fixed in the negotiations. However, in the framework agreement we said that it should not be more than 2 to 3 years, and the exact day and hour will be set in the treaty. Nevertheless, the withdrawal can take place within a shorter period with the agreement of the two sides:

5. [Number as heard] After the completion of the first-stage withdrawal, normal relations will be established between Egypt and Israel which will include diplomatic, economic, and cultural relations.

While this is the timetable for total withdrawal under the agreement, I can tell you that good intentions on both sides, the stability of conditions through the establishment of Palestinian rule in the West Bank and Gaza, the removal of the factors which cause fear and suspicion while we are exercising the first constructive step of peace after 30 years of war and destruction--I can tell you that through the sincere desire for peace on both sides we can accomplish complete withdrawal within a shorter period than stipulated by the agreement, God willing. Peace, brothers and sisters, is not just stipulations on paper. Peace, first and last, is sincerity and determination to achieve peace.

For this reason we accepted the establishment of normal relations between the peoples of Egypt and Israel after the completion of the first stage of withdrawal in order to strengthen reassurance regarding the sincerity of intentions and so that a normal relationship can consolidate the peace march on its normal course and completely end all traces of fear and suspicion.

This is how we have handled the peace issue, brothers and sisters, since the first peace call came out of Egypt on 4 February 1971. At that time I declared on your behalf that I was prepared to sign a peace agreement with Israel. This was the first such announcement to be made by an Arab official since the beginning of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Then I made my call on 16 October 1973 from this platform and before your honorable assembly for an international conference in which just and lasting peace could be decided. At that time I was not in the position of someone begging for peace or calling for a cease-fire.

With this faith in the sacred peace message, we signed the first disengagement agreement and then the second disengagement agreement. Then I undertook the historic peace initiative with my visit to Jerusalem in order to destroy the wall of suspicion, fear of deception, and the false and cautious interpretation of every behavior, action or decision.

Then there was my speech in the Knesset to the Israeli people when I said to them with a heart open to all the hopes of peace. I said: Why should our will not agree with sincerity and faith to remove together all the suspicions of fear, treachery, devious intentions and hiding of true intentions? Why don't we work together with courage and daring to establish an edifice of peace that protects, not threatens, so we can give our future generations the light of the human message for building, development and the prosperity of man? Why should we bequeath to these generations the results of bloodshed and killing, orphan children, widows, ruined families and moaning of victims?

Thank God Almighty that through the support of the people, your support, and the support of the peoples of the world who believe in peace we were able, indeed, after the Camp David agreement to reach the first signs of mutual confidence regarding the sincerity of intentions. [applause]

The peace treaty negotiations between Egypt and Israel, as I said, will begin shortly in order to set on maps the security conditions we have accepted and which I have already announced we are prepared to accept. The first and last aim is peace without giving up an inch of our land or a single grain of our sacred soil.

On the basis of these conditions, as you have read in the agreement, a full division of the Egyptian armed forces will be deployed at the passes. UN forces will be deployed in a demilitarized zone on the border, together with Egyptian police, and in the Sharm ash-Shaykh area to guarantee the freedom of passage through the Strait of Tiran. These are the basic outlines on which detailed negotiations will take place in the future.

Some of us may feel that Israel is exaggerating its concern for its security. This is correct. Israel is exaggerating its concern for its security against any aggression, although it possesses a big military force. But I say to you and announce openly that our Egyptian Armed Forces do not lack modern equipment or the highest standards of training and experience with the latest technological achievements of the age.

However, I hope that we can all appreciate the psychological effects caused by the superiority of the Egyptian fighter in the October War and the stunning control he achieved over his modern weapons in the first electronic and missile war, which even the big powers that produced these weapons have not been through. As I told you at the beginning of my speech, had it not been for the October War, the peace initiative would not have taken place. [applause]

Brothers and sisters, one subject has not been dealt with in the text of the agreement, and you have heard about it and the whole world has heard about it--it is the subject of the evacuation of the settlements which Israel built in Sinai.

As the speaker of your honorable assembly has said in his speech, I established two basic principles for work at Camp David before I left Egypt. These two principles are: no relinquishment of land and no relinquishment of sovereignty. Anything else can be the subject of negotiations.

For this reason our opinion regarding the issue of the settlements was clear and unequivocal. The solution proposed by President Carter was that the subject of the complete evacuation of the settlements should be submitted to the Knesset to make a decision on it within 2 weeks from the signing of the Camp David agreement. This is because the Israeli Government had committed itself before the Knesset by its policy of maintaining the settlements.

I was clear in my talks, in my negotiations and in the principle about which I spoke to you. I told President Carter that the evacuation of the settlements is a basic condition for implementing this agreement; otherwise, the agreement will be automatically considered invalid if the Israeli Knesset does not approve the evacuation of these settlements, and Egypt will not be bound by it.

Carter, who is a man of ethics and principles, declared this at the joint session of the Senate and the House of Representatives and during the signing of the agreement. Perhaps you recently followed the decision of the Israeli Cabinet and then the decision of the Israeli Knesset after they had preferred peace to land and sovereignty, exactly as I asked.

The evacuation of the settlements will take place during the second stage of withdrawal. As I told you, the agreement stipulates that in the first stage the withdrawal will be made to a line from east of Al-'Arish to Ra's Muhammad. In the second stage the withdrawal will be to the international border between Egypt and Palestine under the mandate. In the second stage, the settlements will be evacuated and all civilians and military personnel will leave the land of Sinai, as the agreement stipulates. [applause]

I must put on record that during the last hours of the Camp David conference Mr Begin, the Israeli prime minister, showed a true understanding of the subject of the settlements.

One clause in the agreement remains to be explained. This clause conforms with the Constantinople agreement concluded in 1888. This clause concerns the freedom of the passage of ships in the Gulf of Suez and the Suez Canal. In accordance with the Constantinople agreement, ships are denied passage when there is a state of war with the state concerned. Since the state of war will end with the signing of the peace agreement, the Israelis will have the right of passage through the Suez Canal.

Brothers and sisters, I repeat that these bases stipulated in the agreement on the withdrawal from Sinai are the same bases which will govern the negotiations between Syria and Israel concerning the Golan Heights. This is why the Camp David agreement called on the confrontation states to participate in establishing the steps of peace.

I declare to you four important and basic facts. The first fact is that the Camp David documents stipulate that the peace negotiations will be held under the UN flag and in accordance with the principles of Resolution 242.

The second fact is that the Security Council will endorse the peace treaties and guarantee that their provisions will not be violated. Furthermore, the permanent members of the Security Council will be requested to sign these treaties and guarantee respect for their provisions. They, the permanent members, will also be requested to make their policy and actions conform to the pledges contained in the agreement.

The third fact is that the United States will participate in all future negotiations. All this is stipulated in the agreement on the framework of peace.

Now comes the fourth fact. I believe that you do not have to hear it from me, but I declare it to be heard by everyone on our Arab territory, from the ocean to the Gulf. The fourth fact is that no secret agreements were concluded at Camp David or after Camp David. No such agreements will be concluded. [applause]

Egypt works in broad daylight. We will not do something which we will be ashamed to announce. We will not have a true democracy that rules the people with the people's will unless our people are fully aware of all the causes of their destiny and the destiny of the Arab nation.

You are aware that I will not allow myself to stay in office for 1 hour if the answer to the people's confidence is to hide facts from them, no matter what these facts are.

I thank God Almighty for guiding me in every decision I have made ever since I assumed the trust of the first responsibility. I thank God Almighty for enabling me to make my decisions a consolidation of the people's will, their profound perception and genuine civilized consciousness.

Brothers and sisters, as we take the first steps of a historic change toward peace in our land--nay, toward safeguarding the world from the threats of catastrophes, whose extent God only knows, if the fuse is lit--I address my words to the fraternal African states. We are an indivisible part of the huge continent as far as the renaissance and liberation struggle of its peoples are concerned.

I address myself to our brothers, the sons of our continent, in order to put on record that the African states have always been a solid mainstay which has strengthened our struggle for the sake of right, justice and peace. It is a magnificent experience to feel in all phases of our issue that the African peoples and their leaders are standing with us in one trench, [applause] and are adopting the stand of principle and genuine belief in solidarity, and not the stand of empty slogans or changeable support.

The African peoples have fought with all their huge combat strength. They have fought with us to liberate the land. They have fought with us to establish the right of self-determination. These are rights for which the African people have fought and are still fighting with unique courage.

The African conferences were the forums from which we addressed the world peoples and around which we adopted decisions that led to increasing international support. The African committees were formed to consolidate Arab solidarity, foremost among them being the committee of sages. I say the African committees have been committees of work and movement.

This circle increased in depth, and its geographical framework expanded to include our brothers in the Afro-Asian and nonalined states throughout the world. These states stood in one rank and were one barrier against the seizure of land by force and against the violation of the right of the peoples to freedom and equality. I say to all of them, to our brothers in Africa and Asia, that we are still on the threshold of the more difficult road and that there is still a long round of exhaustive and continuous struggle before us. I also say to them that the message which we have borne together with total courage and consciousness will not be completed unless we succeed in liberating the land and regaining the right. Our first steps on this difficult road are undoubtedly a new factor that will affect the course of events. However, we must continue the struggle together in complete vigilance until the great objectives which we have agreed upon and fought for are achieved.

I come now to the last part of my speech, which as I told you is the domestic position.

The October War, brothers and sisters, as far as we were concerned, was a blessed historic change from despondency to hope, from loss of self-confidence to complete retrieval of confidence. After the fighting ended, we began an ambitious program of building and construction, despite the fact that we had faced and were still facing a crushing economic crisis. At that time our economy was below zero because of the burdens and responsibilities of military preparations--something which no state with limited resources can shoulder.

Egypt entered into two fierce wars in a period of only 6 years, from the 1967 defeat to the October 1973 victory. It also entered into a war of attrition in between. Earlier it had faced the 1956 aggression. Despite this and despite the huge obstacles, we managed to deal with reforming the economic course. We moved from the policy of closed doors to the policy of open doors in the economy. We turned the serious shortage in production to an increase in the rate of production. We dealt with the widespread inflation which led to an increase in prices by making successive attempts to raise wages and incomes by an amount which the state could shoulder.

This has been done through strong and sincere cooperation with some of the fraternal Arab states and with the appreciation and encouragement of the world society led by the United States and the EEC. After 5 years of severe suffering, we managed to overcome the bottleneck and prepare to stand firmly on our two feet. The credit in all this arises from the fact that the international institutions respect and have confidence in the soundness of the economic course.

However, I am telling you that we are still in the phase of endurance. This is so despite all the continuing efforts which have been exerted. To reap the fruits of the open-door production policy, it was imperative for us simultaneously to assume the burdens of our military responsibility for liberating the land, while we were struggling with all our strength to achieve peace.

You have frequently heard me demanding that the October generation, which simultaneously met the requistes of war and paved the way to peace, should assume the responsibility of leadership in the various renaissance and vigilance domains through the logic of sound preparation and scientific planning. Furthermore, this generation should boldly shoulder responsibility for executive action with enthusiasm, courage and faith. Such faith demands that we reduce the hardships in order to lay down the scientific and practical props of the future of prosperity and dignified living for every sweating and toiling family in the land of Egypt.

When I say the October generation, I mean all those who contributed through military, civilian or popular efforts to preparing for and executing the October victory. I also mean all the national expertise which gave its experience and thinking to this major change.

For all these things, we have provided a democratic structure which protects the citizen's freedom and covers him with security and safety. In this structure the citizens will release their ideas through views and counterviews. These will be honest and sincere ideas expressed for the sake of God and the homeland.

Brothers and sisters, you are aware that some evil trends receive orders and instructions from a foreign capital and are openly plotting against us in Egypt. They are plotting against our people and against our right to freedom and life. These evil trends attempted to exploit the atmosphere of freedom and democracy to storm the building and ruin freedom and democracy. In doing so these trends allied themselves with a sick call for returning to the pre-23 July political corruption and false democracy.

These evil attempts took place. But through their vigilance and alertness, the people protected their march and their society against all dark plots.

However, where do we now stand as far as our domestic situation is concerned? Where will we proceed in the wake of the peace agreement, and when will the desired prosperity come? These are the questions which I know perfectly well cross the mind of every citizen in our land. I also know that the people keep on saying that we achieved enormous victories in our foreign affairs. These victories have deserved the world's appreciation and placed Egypt in a distinguished position of respect and admiration on the international scene. When will we achieve such colossal victories in our domestic affairs, while we are now on the threshold of peace?

I also know that the people want me to devote my full time to the domestic situation and to give it as great an effort as the one I have given to the external problem. I am also aware that we have all received the tidings of peace with great joy. The great hope in our heart is that the full light of peace will illuminate the path of internal construction. We will thus quickly and effectively rid ourselves of problems which had almost become chronic problems, as if there could be no decisive solutions to them.

I also know that some people, because of a complex of fear from the pre-May ghosts, imagined that there has been a departure from the course of democracy. Some people imagined this after they listened to constant warnings from those who are exploiting the atmosphere of democracy and after I had gone to the political street to lead the National Democratic Party, which an overwhelming majority of citizens have joined. [applause]

Questions were raised about the future of the opposition parties in the face of this overwhelming majority, which could turn into a disguised domination. I know all this, brothers and sisters, because I am not far from the pulse of the masses in the villages, towns, quarters and alleys. I am from and for the street. My heart is always open to every sigh and every cry. It is my fate that while in a position of responsibility I should perform a sacred mission for liberation and prosperity. There can be no freedom when the land is occupied and no democracy can dispense with prosperity. Prosperity cannot be realized at the expense of democracy.

With the peace agreement we will begin a new stage of radical development in our domestic affairs, a stage which will require from all of us--rulers and ruled--tremendous responsibilities and hard and great work to consolidate democracy, build peace and realize prosperity. These are our three aims in the next stage.

This stage requires all of us, government and people, to increase our effort and double our work. There is no place for bystanders or for negative people. There is no place for those who do not work and do not want others to work. There is no place for those whose role is confined to holding grudges and attempting to destroy and break ranks. There is no place for any of these in the caravan of this great march.

We will be embarking on a radical change from an economy of war to an economy of peace. It is a change which cannot take place by a stroke of a pen and cannot be accomplished without accurate, scientific calculations. All this will take place so that we will truly achieve all our hopes.

This difficult march must proceed in one caravan, combining the government and the people. This march must proceed in one caravan, with one will and with one faith. We will break rocks so that together we will cross one road, the road of peace, democracy and prosperity.

Brothers and sisters, you know that I do not favor hollow slogans. However, it is my duty to tell you that unless we all participate in this difficult march with the spirit of October--in other words, with organized and well-planned work, with honesty and courage and with duty and responsibility--we will be caught in a vicious circle in which we will keep circling around ourselves and our problems, endlessly and aimlessly.

While the agreement on the framework for peace has defined the steps for achieving a just and lasting peace, our march must define the steps of building and prosperity in a clear framework, within which the rulers and the ruled will work. It must be a clear and defined framework to which the government will be committed and in which all of our potential will participate to implement it sincerely and zealously. The people will watch this implementation with a spirit of cooperation and with all vigilance and courage.

I am not at all annoyed, but appreciate the sincere voices which demand that I concentrate on internal affairs. However, permit me to tell them in front of you that there can be no separation at all between the external situation and the internal situation. Both serve each other. Our external success primarly depended on the solidity of the people, their unity and awareness, despite all they suffer in their daily life and in the services. The internal situation cannot be developed to embark on the process of the integral, sound building, when we are still suffering the burdens of external coercion and sustaining the requirements of the liberation struggle.

Brothers and sisters, all of us must make a new start to fulfill the responsibilities of the stage of this great march. I do not blame some of the sincere voices whose views have been influenced by the complexes of the recent past. They fear that democracy will be turned into the domination of the one party. I assure them and emphasize to them with the same sincerity as their fear that democracy does not retreat, and there will never be any retreat from democracy, God willing.

Reforming the democratic course through the public referendum was not a retreat from democracy but a push forward to democracy along the correct road, and to save it from plots and from those who are the slaves of deviationist aims or the ambitions of the pre-July era when they dominated, coerced and corrupted. If I have often warned against these people, I did so to protect and not to dominate. I will continue to warn.

You have heard, perhaps, that these deviationists are now reiterating like parrots the voice of Moscow and those who reject the establishment of peace. They have separated and isolated themselves from the unanimity of our people to establish a real peace in which we neither buy nor are bought. The existence of a party supported by the overwhelming majority of the people does not mean at all that the majority will crush the opinion of the minority or the opposition. It is the responsibility of the majority and the minority to crush, with opinion and counteropinion, all the obstacles in the way of building and prosperity.

While asking the majority to abide fully by the sound democracy, carry out the responsibility faithfully and devotedly, and support its government by ethical conduct, good example and honest and sincere action in the popular arena without depending on the fact that it is the majority of the ruling party--while asking the majority to adhere to these commitments, I ask the opposition parties to adhere to one commitment only. This is a commitment to adhere to ethical conduct through participation and not defamation, through an honest opinion about the remedy and not through a mere exaggeration of everything. The ethical conduct I spoke to you about here has perhaps been expressed by the person who wanted to cause a problem at today's session.

Our constitution, the People's Assembly law and bylaw and the code of honor of all institutions do not detract from the right to express a counteropinion provided that legal methods are followed and the supremacy of the law is respected. All of us must abide by the guarantees for practicing democracy which we approved at the ASU Central Committee meeting on 22 July. They are genuine guarantees based on respecting the opinion and the counteropinion and on insuring that our constitutional institutions should not be far removed from the aspirations of the masses or from fully practicing complete and sound democracy.

The idea of democracy is that democratic rule based on party action should be in close contact with the deputies in the People's Assembly in charting the government's policy and in explaining it to the people. The relationship between the government and the popular organizations of the parties must also be strengthened.

Therefore, the decisions by the government of the majority party will not be made in isolation from the party or its parliamentary formation. Also, the democratic government will not face a situation where the party will defend a policy or decisions which it did not share in making or which come as a surprise to it.

It is the duty of the popular organizations of the majority party to crystallize the opinions of the masses and submit them to the party's parliamentary body and the government officials. Here I say also that the practice of sound democracy must be manifested in a good, cooperative relationship between the government and the opposition parties. The government's policy must be based on calling all national experts to participate in the national work, irrespective of their opinion. Democracy first means giving complete opportunity in complete freedom to any citizen to contribute his opinions, ideas and experience to achieve the construction goals, as long as all this takes place under the supremacy of the law.

What I seek from the majority and minority parties I also seek from our national and party press. I tell them: Give everything to the right and the truth; completely abide by the right code of honor; make use of the new traditions which will help us on the difficult march, correct our mistakes, pave the way for us and give a big opportunity to the October generation and all the national forces to work and achieve the aspirations of the masses.

If I am hard on the press in some of my words, it is only because I have it close to my heart and because I believe in the importance of its mission, always aspiring to have it be a truthful mirror of our society. I have called and continue to call for the press to be the fourth authority codified in the constitution.

When, for example, the masses read in the headlines about the allocation of millions of pounds for repairing or establishing something, while in actual fact the report concerns a mere draft agreement for which these millions are coming after 2 or 3 years--such headlines are published daily--then the masses, who are deceived by the headlines heralding hope, justifiably ask what has become of these millions. However, I know that the press is also justified at times because some officials hastily give glittering statements or hasty promises. I appeal to our press in the march toward prosperity to think and think again before using the pen to write an exciting report or a fascinating headline or special accusation, whether this is due to a weakness on behalf of circulation or fame or enticement.

Brothers and sisters, I might have taken a long time with this preamble before talking to you about the new framework of our internal move in our march. However, I consider this preamble an inseparable part of the framework. We are heading for a comprehensive change in the method and performance of internal work. The aim is not to change persons. The first, basic aim is to create a new entity with a new logic and a new commitment--an entity that will follow peace with prosperity and, for building, use studied comprehensive planning, strict implementation and complete administrative organization so that we will actually end the sufferings of our good and patient people.

The end of the sufferings should be achieved through clear and specific commitments and timetables to resolve every problem affecting the life of the masses, and through practical paving of the way to prosperity with a calm spirit which is confident in what it hears and which does not crumble before false promises or incorrect portrayal of facts.

Brothers and sisters, as I have always accustomed you, I do not hide from you the fact that I suffered considerably from the conflicting official statements, which I requested from responsible quarters while I was studying food self-sufficiency projects on site. The specialists and I have also discovered new vistas of prosperity which do not exist in our official documents.

These conflicting reports from various quarters do not lead to a sound study of our projects. On the contrary, this conflict affects the adoption of sound decisions or delays their implementation. We support the economic open-door policy and advocate investments. This is what has induced me to ask your august assembly to hold a parliamentary investigation into all the circumstances surrounding one of the major investment projects.

In order for us to proceed on a sound course and to learn from our mistakes, it is imperative for us to adhere to a basic principle of the economic open-door policy. This principle is: If a project is approved, it is imperative for this approval to be built on well-thought-out bases of the various aspects of the project. It is also imperative for these well-thought-out bases to exhaust all means of scientific and technical research. If these things are done and approval is granted following these accurate studies, it will then become impermissible to abandon this project. It is also imperative for the leaders who oversee the departments of the economic open-door policy to refrain from pursuing a closed-door policy. If there are cliques involved in the economic open-door policy which understand this policy as providing enormous wealth to an exploiting and limited minority at the expense of the people's endurance and sufferings or as providing a means to reap unlawful profits, it is imperative for us to immediately and decisively rid ourselves of these cliques. [applause]

In the area of the administrative revolution, it is imperative for us to immediately endow the local government with power of action, if we want to achieve this revolution. It is also imperative for us to endow all the organs related to the public services with full decision-making authority.

I have had numerous examples of failure. As I told you, I am not unaware of all our people's feelings or aspirations for full discipline, sound coordination among various government organs, or a rapid reckoning with those responsible for deviation, shortcomings and laxity.

In saying these things, I am not blaming anyone or any official personally. Those who are shouldering the heavy burdens are exerting efforts beyond human endurance. However, the basic disease lies in the nature of the formation of the organs for administration and implementation. This is our prime reponsibility, which we should assume for the sake of democracy and peace leading to prosperity.

We want a real administrative revolution for which all qualifications will be enlisted--and these qualifications are numerous in Egypt--so that this revolution will achieve radical and comprehensive reforms. These reforms should begin from a broad base in such a way as to prevent an extremely important basic decision from disintegrating when it runs into stumbling blocks as it rises from one level to another.

Basic priorities lie ahead of us. All these priorities must proceed together along parallel lines. As I said, the first priority is the real administrative revolution. The second is an integral structure of all the planning and statistical organs--a structure depending upon the most modern means of the century. Then there should follow a total scientific coordination among these organs and the state's implementation organs. The third is a new phase in all our country's production resources--agricultural and industrial. This phase will be established on accurate calculations and on sophisticated scientific decisions. This phase will adhere to production-increase averages released for the masses to see and in accordance with timetables. These priorities will be followed by the pooling of all the production resources exploited by the public or private sector, either separately or through their cooperation. This pooling of resources would open new vistas for a just distribution [of national income], for an increase in the national income and for an increase in employment.

It is imperative for us to give the public sector a free hand in managing its own affairs on a sound economic basis, free of routine and subject only to the considerations of public interest.

The fourth priority is a sound assessment of citizens' income, revenue and opportunities for lawful profit. This march will not achieve prosperity if a remorseless minority continues with animal greed to seek huge and illegal earnings. There must be a planned and organized hunting down of such people.

The fifth priority is that there must be a comprehensive reexamination of the open-door economic and production policy to insure the rapid, correct implementation of this policy and to enable the people to reap the fruit of it and feel its impact on their daily lives.

Sixth, there must be a complete reshuffle of all the departments which are responsible for receiving and using foreign aid. These departments must simplify their procedures, insure that their estimates are correct and adhere to timetables.

Seventh, there must be a new scientific study of incomes and earnings aimed at easing the sufferings of the people. The plan for easing the sufferings of the people must be clearly defined so that the people may know the beginning and the end of the plan and so that their feelings will not be frustrated in anticipation of sudden decisions.

Eighth, there must be a clear course for solving the problems of housing, communications, hospitals and all services problems. This course will define the government's commitment to carry out certain improvements according to fixed timetables, whether short or long. However, all this must be made public.

The ninth priority is that there must be comprehensive planning for the development of Sinai by using oil, gas and mineral resources, tourist sites and airports. There will be land reclamation and food security projects. Naturally, we will not be less energetic than the Israelis in this respect.

Tenth, there must be a new study of the problems of the village and the worries of farmers. This study will deal with the cooperative system, the prices of crops, marketing techniques and facilitating loans and services. It will also constantly carry out programs to supply villages with vital utilities and services.

We will not start from a vacuum, as I told you, brothers and sisters, but we will start all events with a new spirit and a scientific, responsible and enlightened phase. God willing, I will declare today, after this session of yours, the beginning of the constitutional measures to create the changes which this stage requires in all the institutions of the government. The new government will present to your esteemed assembly its complete plans. It will adhere to these plans before the people and will seek your sincere cooperation so that the People's Assembly will send these plans to departments responsible for implementing them. All measures will be in accordance with timetables known by every citizen and protected by every citizen.

I am dutybound to give everyone his due. I am dutybound to put on record the constant effort and the positive achievement which the government of Prime Minister Mamduh Salim has realized. [applause] Loyalty also dictates that I should mention his courageous stand on 13 May [1971] and his holding of the first free elections for the People's Assembly, which everyone admitted were honest and clean. This man has shouldered heavy burdens with all honesty and sincerity. [applause]

A final word, brothers and sisters. The task may seem difficult; it is in fact very difficult. But there is great hope. The unity of the nation at this stage is more imperative than at any past stage in its struggle. It is the water of life for our great and difficult march. Egypt is still exposed to foreign plots supported by the capabilities of big powers. Beware and beware of the false prophets, whatever garments they wear, whatever rumors they use, whatever lies they spread.

We have endured pain and suffering for a long time. This is the fate of those who are loyal to their sacred land and believe in society. We have endured for long, but we had hope. We resisted division while we were facing the post-October period with a subzero economy, but we proved that nothing can match our determination and that no billions can buy our willpower.

I want you to know that the accomplishment of all the peace moves will not be a picnic in a land of flowers and roses. Great struggle lies ahead of us. It is sufficient to know that changing one sentence in the Camp David documents required many hours of continuous, exhausting dialog.

I again say that the achievement of our national aims, brothers and sisters, depends first and last on our assumption of our huge responsibility with the greatest effort and sweat.

Just as I was thinking of the hardships and sufferings of our people while I was at Camp David, as though I was living the sufferings of every citizen, I also want you to think along with me about the requirements of our march toward the desired prosperity. The government alone cannot and will not be able to provide these requirements. The government requires all your capabilities, resources, experience, enthusiasm, and above all your confidence, so that together we will achieve these aims with the help of God, together we will end the sufferings, and together we will achieve an honorable life in a happy home.

What these noble people accorded me in their sweeping support and legendary sentiments upon my return from the peace trip--that no one can dream of--is, at the same time, the greatest impetus for me to work and endure in order to promote the stature of these people and their hopes for a new life and for prosperity. My sincere thanks and true gratitude to each man, woman, and child in my country is a reaffirmation of my responsibility before you, through you, and with you to proceed together with firm steps, enlightened mind, and free thought--to proceed together with a willpower that can crush rocks and unity that challenges the small ones and overcomes hatred on the road of love, the road of peace and the road of prosperity.

Brothers and sisters, my responsibility before our people, before you and before history is not to disavow a trust. The first trust I had after I assumed the presidency was to liberate the land--to liberate the land with the struggle of pure faith and the honor of responsibility, which demands that no blood should be shed if there is a way to peace and, at the same time, demands that blood should be shed if all the doors to peace are closed in our faces. The price of life can never be submission to humiliation or slavery.

Perhaps you will remember that in the 1 May 1971 speech I declared that I will not allow my sons in the armed forces to fight an uneven battle or throw them into the fields of suicide. I said this when the power centers were maneuvering over going to war to deceive the people in order to get rid of me. In doing so, they rid themselves of any feelings of responsibility toward the lives of our sons and the fate of our country, because they knew positively that we were not actually ready to fight. However, I was not afraid and did not fear the false accusation that I am afraid of war or tried to deceive the people about preparation for battle. I spoke the truth to the people.

Since that time, we exerted the greatest imaginable, militant efforts which proceeded in two parallel directions. The first direction was for us to seek the path of peace with all patience and determination. The second direction was for us to prepare for the battle with the most modern weapons and planning we were able to procure. What we gave the two efforts was beyond the fortitude of humans in perseverance and insistence, vigilance and continuity, and complete self-confidence.

I realized that our struggle for peace was trapped in a vicious circle and was heading toward a blind alley, because the big powers, which possessed influential power, had seen us as a motionless and dead body. The two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union, agreed in their first detente statement in Moscow in 1972 that they were gratified with the state of military relaxation. We were then in a state of defeat. When we reached this blind alley, a decision was made that the battle was inevitable with all the weapons we could procure through heart-rending work. You remember that I told the Supreme Council of the Egyptian Armed Forces, at a secret meeting on 26 October 1972, that we no longer had any other choice. I said verbatim: Death is better than life without dignity and it is more honorable for us and for the generations that follow to die standing on our feet rather than live on our knees. [applause]

Brothers and sisters, my ideology has been and, God willing, will continue to be, that the Egyptian fighter is the element of decisive force in the battle--an element which was not understood by computer calculations or by any other calculations, all of which had forecast that we would be defeated in a few hours. The October War fulfilled its objectives. Israel understood that it would not be able to safeguard its existence through what it then called its invincible military superiority. Furthermore, the world understood that it had rebuffed our call for peace through erroneous estimates.

If we are able to provide all the prospects of success for the achievement of peace, then I would be shirking my responsibility before my people, before you and before history in forsaking a single drop of the blood of my sons, whether soldiers or officers. I would be shirking my responsibility before my people, before you and before history in forsaking a single drop of the blood of my sons, whether soldiers or officers, or in offering a single life to be sacrificed on the altars of excesses, of slogans and false and insane enthusiasm. I am responsible for the blood of my sons. The lives of my sons are a trust I hold. I thank God because He inspired my people with faith in peace. I thank God because He inspired me to achieve what I promised to do.

Brothers and sisters, I need the efforts and the sweat of all of you as well as all your thoughts and all your helping hands. I would never have waged battles alone. I have entered all battles through you, while you were with me and I was with you. God be praised, we have won all our battles because we have always been together and God's hand was above our hands. Together we achieve victories. Together we rejoice over victories and forge ahead toward new victories. Together we endure sufferings and together we cross the pain of suffering, just as we crossed from defeat to victory and from war to the threshold of peace.

I am aware of all your hopes and pains. Furthermore, it is from the pain of suffering that the potential of hope surges ahead. Life has long since taught us that great nations are made by great pains. Our unity and tenacity have made it possible for our struggle for peace to lead us to the threshold of peace. With God's help, our unity and tenacity will make it possible for our struggle for prosperity to lead us to the threshold of peace. The struggle for prosperity requires us to give--to give sweat, work, honesty, obligation, selflessness and a sincere awareness of the masses' sufferings.

Our Lord, we have heard the call of one calling us to faith: believe ye in the Lord. And we have believed. Our Lord, forgive us our sins, blot out from us our iniquities, and take to Thyself our souls in the company of the righteous. Our Lord, grant us what Thou promised us through Thine apostles, and save us from shame on the day of judgment, for Thou never breakest Thy promise. Peace be with you. [applause]

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH REPORTERS AFTER ASSEMBLY SPEECH

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[Text] Cairo, 2 October--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has announced that U.S. President Jimmy Carter will participate in the signing of the peace agreements between Egypt and Israel. This came in a statement by President as-Sadat in reply to the questions of foreign correspondents following the president's speech at the People's Assembly today.

Replying to a question on whether the U.S. President will sign the agreement, President Anwar as-Sadat said: I really hope that Carter will sign with us so that we can continue what we began at Camp David. The president continued: Let me tell you that we would not have achieved what we did had it not been for President Carter's efforts, patience and perseverance. The president said: I have invited Carter to Egypt and he has accepted the invitation. When asked about the date of Carter's arrival in Egypt, the president said: Let us leave this for the time when the agreement is signed.

Asked about his call to King Husayn of Jordan to shoulder his responsibility in the coming stage, the president said: I have called on all the Arabs.

Asked whether he believes King Husayn will shoulder his responsibility, the president replied: Let us hope so. I have no further comment on this.

EGYPT ACCEPTS INVITATION FOR 12 OCT TALKS IN WASHINGTON

NC022000Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1937 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 2 October--President Anwar as-Sadat today received a letter from U.S. President Jimmy Carter inviting the Government of Egypt to send an Egyptian delegation for talks with the Israeli side in Washington on 12 October, within the framework of the Camp David agreements.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman passed this to MENA this evening. The spokesman said that the letter explains that U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will represent the United States at these talks. The spokesman added that President as-Sadat has accepted President Carter's invitation to Egypt to participate in these talks.

Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs and acting foreign minister, has described President Carter's invitation to the Egyptian delegation to hold talks with the Israeli side in Washington as "evidence that the United States is continuing to actually participate in the efforts to achieve peace, as it pledged in the Camp David agreements."

In a statement to MENA this evening, Dr Ghali explained that the general rules for the talks are those mentioned in the Camp David agreement, particularly regarding the overall framework for peace.

Delegation Members Reported

JN021752Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Washington, 2 October--Diplomatic circles in Washington have confirmed that the meetings between the Egyptian and Israeli sides with the participation of the United States will begin in the U.S. capital on 12 October at the foreign and defense ministers level. The meetings are expected to last 2 weeks.

These circles said that the Egyptian delegation will be composed of Deputy Prime Minister Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and First Foreign Under Secretary Dr Usamah al-Baz.

The Israeli delegation will be composed of Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and legal adviser Baraq. The United States will be represented by Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. During the time Vance is on an official visit to Moscow, the U.S. delegation will be headed by one of Vance's aides. A number of experts from each side will also attend the meetings.

Informed sources said that the idea of holding the meetings in Washington was proposed by the United States following a dispute over holding these meetings in Egypt or Israel. Egypt had insisted that Ismailia be the permanent venue for the meetings while Israel requested that the meetings be held alternately one week in Egypt and another in Israel.

AS-SADAT ACCEPTS SALIM RESIGNATION

NC021512Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has issued a decision charging Dr Mustafa Khalil with forming a new cabinet.

Mr Mamduh Salim had tendered his resignation several weeks ago, but President as-Sadat deemed it appropriate that the cabinet continue to carry out its duties until he returned from the summit discussions at Camp David. The president accepted the resignation today and expressed appreciation for the efforts of Mamduh Salim's government during its term of office.

NEW CABINET TO BE SWORN IN 5 OCTOBER

NC030649Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 0640 GMT 3 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 3 October--Members of the new Egyptian Cabinet will be sworn in before President Anwar as-Sadat at 'Abidin Palace Thursday morning.

Both AL-AHRAM and AL-AKHBAR say today that President as-Sadat will chair the first meeting of the new cabinet following the swearing-in ceremony. The meeting will also be attended by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MEMBER CENSURED

NC021920Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpts] The People's Assembly resumed its meetings tonight under the chairmanship of the assembly speaker, Engineer Sayyid Mar'i. The assembly approved a decision by the assembly's office censuring assembly member Kamal Ahmad and preventing him from attending 10 sessions for interrupting the president of the republic during his speech this morning, despite the fact that the session chairman had not asked him to speak, and for continuing this interruption despite the fact that he was warned by the assembly chairman.

The assembly decision says that the member's conduct does not conform with the dignity of the assembly members or of the assembly. The assembly will resume its sessions Wednesday morning.

KUWAIT PAPER REPORTS NEW SECURITY MEASURES IN EGYPT

NC030904Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0835 GMT 3 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 3 October--The Kuwaiti newspaper AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM says in a report from Cairo today that the Egyptian Interior Ministry had sent a number of urgent messages to the gulf states, notifying them of its intention to take emergency and strict security measures against all passengers of planes arriving in Cairo from and by way of the gulf area.

The paper says that the Egyptian Interior Ministry has received reliable information indicating that a large number of "Arab extremists," according to the paper, and sympathizers with them from other nationalities had actually arrived in a number of gulf states and that they will attempt to enter Egypt on gulf or foreign passports in order to carry out sabotage activities and political assassinations.

The paper adds that the Egyptian Interior Ministry has explained these measures as purely security measures which have no political motive. The ministry has demanded that the measures be interpreted solely as an effort to safeguard security and stability inside Egypt.

PRESIDENT AL-BAKR RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM SYRIA'S AL-ASAD

JN021242Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1125 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 October--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr today received a written message from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad. The message was delivered by the Iraqi ambassador in Damascus who arrived in Baghdad this afternoon.

INA has learned that President al-Asad's message, written before the announcement of the recent decisions taken by the Revolution Command Council in a statement last evening, contains a positive position toward the issue of relations between the two fraternal countries in confronting common dangers on the Arab level.

INA has also learned that President al-Bakr will send an envoy to Damascus carrying a reply explaining the latest Revolution Command Council decisions.

BA'TH PARTY ISSUES STATEMENT REJECTING CAMP DAVID ACCORDS

JN021740Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 2 October--The National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has affirmed that the Arab nation is facing a sharp historic turning point requiring a clear vision of the dangers and aspects of the new onslaught. In a statement issued today, the National Command said that the entire Arab area is one of struggle and that all efforts to stop this onslaught should be placed at the area's disposal through the use of the Arab financial, military and human resources in the service of our historic struggle with imperialism and Zionism, particularly on the confrontation fronts.

The statement added that the Syrian-Iraqi front is one front in the battle with the Zionist enemy and that the danger posed to Arab Egypt is no less serious than the one which faced Palestine and is facing any other Arab country.

The National Command has also affirmed its categorical rejection of the Camp David agreements and all that stems from them. It declared that the only way to repulse the Zionist aggression is confrontation, not negotiation and capitulation.

Masses of our struggling Arab nation: The Arab nation is currently facing a new imperialist-Zionist onslaught represented in the recent Camp David agreements. The banner of capitulation was carried by an Arab ruler who accepted for himself the role of turning against the aspirations of his people, against the history and sacrifices of his nation and against the sacrifices of the martyrs, widows and orphans who gave their most cherished possession for the sake of their principles and beliefs as well as for the sake of the future of their country and Arab homeland.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, which throughout its history of national struggle has considered the issue of liberating the usurped land in Palestine the crux of the entire Arab national liberation issue, cannot consider the struggle with Zionism a geographic struggle depending on the liberation of a few kilometers of land here and there.

Proceeding from this realization, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has always believed that confronting Zionism, not capitulating or negotiating with it, is the only way to resist it and thwart its dangers. Confronting the Zionist enemy is inseparable from confronting the imperialist enemy. This confrontation requires isolating all the forces colluding with imperialism and appeasing Zionism, which curb the forces of liberation.

This confrontation requires the mobilization of all the revolutionary and progressive Arab forces for a long comprehensive pan-Arab battle aimed at the complete liberation of the Arab nation from imperialism as well as the realization of the free, united socialist Arab society.

As-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem has caused a sweeping wave of indignation throughout the Arab homeland. It was a clear indication of what the path of "no peace" can lead to in terms of concessions to the enemy on the one hand and of destroying the spirit of confrontation and struggle on the other. The Socialist Arab Ba'th Party has declared its categorical rejection and complete denunciation of this visit.

The Socialist Arab Ba'th Party hoped that some people who are heading on the path of negotiations and seeking to convene the Geneva conference would realize that this path has no beginning and no end other than unconditional surrender to the will of the enemy. The party also hoped that these people would realize that the only way to confront the ferocious imperialist-Zionist onslaught and the humiliating concessions made by As-Sadat is to reject negotiations and bargaining and to work to unify all forces in one front, excluding any possibility of contacting the enemy, whether this contact takes place in occupied Jerusalem or Geneva, whether this contact takes place separately or collectively and whether this contact takes place under UN auspices or outside its framework.

Therefore, we have decided the following:

1. To categorically reject the Camp David agreements and all their results.

2. To reaffirm absolute faith that the only way to repulse the Zionist aggression is by confrontation, not negotiations and capitulation.

3. To reaffirm that the confrontation of Zionism and its designs is inseparable from the confrontation of imperialism and its designs.

4. The imperialist-Zionist onslaught has become fierce to the point that it is threatening the whole Arab existence and all the Arab countries, regardless of the type of regimes or principles.

5. The Arab states must meet to decide the tactics of confrontation and to unify their ranks and place all available resources at the service of confrontation and liberation.

6. To consider the Syrian-Iraqi arena in principle as one arena of confrontation in which Iraq will throw all its weight.

7. To support and aid the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied areas in their resistance of the Zionist occupation and the capitulatory plans and to support and aid the Palestinian resistance movement so it can perform its revolutionary liberation role.

8. To support the Egyptian people materially and morally to stop the conclusion and implementation of the humiliating agreements.

9. To appeal to all Arab masses and party organizations everywhere and to the Palestinian resistance and all progressive and nationalist forces in the Arab homeland to work on all levels and with all means to stop the conclusion and implementation of the capitulatory agreements and to appeal to all progressive and socialist forces in the world to stand on the side of our Arab nation in its battle.

While it is announcing this pan-Arab stand, which springs from its principles and is inspired by its absolute faith in the greatness of this nation, its ability to regenerate itself and its shining future, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party is confident that the Arab nation does not lack resources. The Arab masses do not lack revolutionary will and are capable of destroying all plots, overcoming all obstacles and achieving victory over the enemies.

Long live the people's struggle against imperialism. Long live the people's struggle for unity, freedom and socialism.

BAGHDAD DEMONSTRATORS PROTEST 'CAPITULATION'

JN011838Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1758 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 1 October--Well over a quarter of a million demonstrators roamed Baghdad streets this evening denouncing the treasonous and capitulatory moves aimed at striking at the Arab revolution movement and liquidating the Arabs' central issue of Palestine. The demonstrators raised placards calling for the revival of the Arab combat fronts against the Zionist enemy. They also shouted slogans expressing readiness to wage the battle of liberation in defense of the honor of the Arab nation.

AL-BAKR, SADDAM HUSAYN CONTACT ARAB LEADERS

JN021533Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1130 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 2 October--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr last evening telephoned 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Presidential Council and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, secretary general of the Libyan General People's Congress. President al-Bakr informed the two leaders of the Iraqi position announced in a statement issued by the Revolution Command Council last evening.

Saddam Husayn, Revolution Command Council vice chairman, also made similar telephone calls to His Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi regent and crown prince, and Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, Kuwaiti crown prince and prime minister.

HAMMADI SENDS LETTER TO PDRY FOREIGN MINISTER

JN011525Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1502 GMT 1 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 1 October--PDRY Foreign Minister Muhammad Salih Muti' has received a letter from Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi. The letter was delivered by the Iraqi charge d'affaires in Aden to PDRY Deputy Foreign Minister 'Abd 'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman when they met today. The letter deals with the advanced cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

IRAQI, TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN NEW YORK

JN300752Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 30 Sep 78 JN

[Text] New York--Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, Iraqi foreign minister, met here last night with Gunduz Okcun, Turkish foreign minister. During the meeting, the two ministers exchanged views on bilateral cooperation in various spheres and on issues pertaining to the current session of the UN General Assembly.

MINISTER DELIVERS SPEECH AT UNGA SESSION

JN030927Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs, has said that Jordan's stand on the Palestinian and Middle East issues is based on basic principles which cannot be relinquished. Since 1967, Jordan has been seeking to bring about a settlement and to establish a just and lasting peace in the area. Amid the most difficult circumstances in 1967, Jordan contributed to the issuance of UN Security Council Resolution 242.

In a speech delivered at the UN General Assembly, Mr Ibrahim said: As shown in its leaders' recurrent statements, Israel has rejected the principle of withdrawal and self-determination for the Palestinian people. It has adopted an active policy of establishing settlements in the occupied Arab territories and changing the Arab character of this land, particularly in holy Jerusalem--the crux of the Palestinian cause, the object of the hearts of the faithful, and the symbol of Arab rights and faith in peace, good and amity.

Mr Ibrahim said that the behavior of the successive Israeli governments goes beyond the concept of occupation, as stipulated by international law, because contrary to any other military occupation, the Israeli occupation is much more serious and grave because of the deliberate and continued establishment of settlements which accompanied it in what remained of the land of Palestine after 1948.

The Jordanian Government has on many occasions declared that it supports a just peace and a comprehensive settlement which is based on clear objectives and which clearly indicates that Israel has changed its stand on withdrawal, the Palestinian people's cause and the requisites of a just peace. We want an honorable peace acceptable to us and the coming generations.

Mr Ibrahim said: Jordan supports any reasonable formula for joint Arab and international action, including the Geneva conference, on which the various concerned parties will agree in the crucial coming stages. He added: Following the declaration of the results of the Camp David conference, Jordan reaffirmed its support for a just peace and all peace efforts. It continued its work in international forums and the Arab arena to bring about this peace, out of a desire to shield the area from the woes of war and to enable our people to live in peace under a peaceful settlement based on reciprocal commitments--whereby Israel withdraws from all the occupied Arab territories and the Palestinian people exercise their right to free self-determination--in return for ending the state of war, establishing peace and formulating guarantees for reciprocal security which are supported by the international community which has continuously called for this.

OFFICIAL COMMENTS ON HUSAYN'S CURRENT ARAB TOUR

JN030758Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 3 Oct 78 JN

[Excerpt] Their Majesties King Husayn and Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman met last night at Ar-Rabat palace in Salalah. During the meeting they exchanged viewpoints on developments in the general Arab situation and on issues of mutual concern.

At the end of the talks which His Majesty King Husayn has now held with the heads of Arab states during his current tour, His Excellency Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, said that His Majesty King Husayn presented to the Arab capitals he visited a complete analysis of the current Arab situation and its developments and stressed the collective responsibility of the Arab states to continue Arab steadfastness and take collective action to develop the international position and the current situation in the area in a manner that will maintain the clarity of the Arab national demands and preserve the principles which form the basis for a just and comprehensive settlement of the dispute in the area and the Palestine question.

Sharif Sharaf added: Jordan, which stood firm in the first confrontation, is now trying to guarantee adequate Arab understanding of the developments, of the requirements for steadfastness and of the need to make further efforts for the sake of the common cause. Jordan is reminding the fraternal Arab states that the Palestine question is a collective national responsibility and that the achievement of an honorable settlement of this question, requires maximum Arab support and sharing of responsibility, efforts and commitment.

AMMAN SPECULATES ON CARTER CLARIFICATIONS TO KING HUSAYN

JN021841Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] During the two recent visits made to the Jordanian capital by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and U.S. roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton, His Majesty King Husayn posed several questions and queries about the vague and unbalanced Camp David agreements before defining the Jordanian stand in light of the U.S. administration's replies to Jordan's queries.

President Carter announced yesterday that he will send written replies to His Majesty King Husayn about the queries raised by his majesty on the contents of the two Camp David agreements. He pointed out that the written texts of the two agreements do not reflect the true intentions, thus vaguely insinuating that changes might possibly take place in the inflexible Israeli positions--changes which President Carter was unable to bring about during the conference for reasons which are as yet unknown. In the same statement, however, President Carter expressed his confidence that he, President as-Sadat and Menahem Begin can reach an agreed-upon solution.

Carter's last comment anticipates the U.S. replies to His Majesty King Husayn's queries which he raised to the U.S. Secretary of State and Ambassador Atherton. The U.S. Administration is convinced that its replies will not be positive or convincing regarding the queries raised by His Majesty King Husayn and submitted to the American people through television on the "Face the Nation" program.

Hence, President Carter agrees with his two partners at the Camp David conference on not getting the approval of the other Arab parties which are directly concerned in the Middle East conflict. Thus, the wheel of peace a la Camp David will turn whether the other Arabs, including Jordan, are convinced or not convinced with the expected U.S. replies, or whether they agree to participate in the negotiations about whose formulation, provisions and principles they were not consulted.

Even though it ignores the essential party in the conflict, namely, the Palestinian people, and even though it deviates from UN Security Council Resolution 242, the peace coming from the three Camp David partners will not wait for the approval of the other sides. Hence, it will not deal gently with any obstacle which impedes its course, particularly the major obstacle which will be formed following the Arabs' agreement to have a unified stand to confront the excesses and the points ignored in the Camp David documents.

While facing the exposed and announced facts of the tripartite U.S.-Egyptian-Israeli moves, King Husayn's current initiative came so that the Arab nation will confront the real plan and so that every Arab side will shoulder its responsibilities and specify its commitments toward the requisites of building a unified Arab stand which can deal with the current components of the Camp David agreements and with the components of the coming stage which will bring about large transformations in the Middle East arena in the hope that a unified Arab stand will succeed in rectifying the course of Camp David by taking into consideration the basic principles for a just and comprehensive peace in the area.

His Majesty King Husayn's queries which were conveyed to the U.S. administration and U.S. public opinion in the past few days deal with the core of the fateful issue and the essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

If the U.S. administration's replies are positive and convincing, no obstacle will stand in the way of a peace based on Israel's withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, particularly their right to self-determination and to return to their land.

However, if these replies are negative and vague and support the trends contained in the framework for a comprehensive agreement for peace, Jordan will continue to cling to its firm and principled stand. In cooperation with its Arab brethren and through the existing international institutions, Jordan will seek to safeguard the Arab and Palestinian soil and rights which were ignored by the framework for comprehensive peace.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN DEPARTS FOR NORWAY

JN021632Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan and Her Highness Princess Tharwat left Amman before noon today for the Kingdom of Norway on an official visit of several days during which his highness will hold talks with senior Norwegian officials on economic, technical and cultural cooperation between the two countries.

His Highness was seen off at Amman airport by His Highness Prince Muhammad, the regent; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, acting prime minister and minister of information; staff Lt Col Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the armed forces; His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, chief chamberlain; His Eminence Shaykh Ibrahim al-Qattan, chief justice; and a number of senior civil and military officials.

His Highness Prince Hasan is being accompanied on his visit by an official delegation comprised of the minister of industry and trade, director of the industrial development bank, and the Jordanian ambassador in Bonn, who is nonresident ambassador to Norway.

PRESIDENT SARKIS ANNOUNCES NEW SECURITY PLAN

NC021500Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 Sep 78 NC

[Message addressed by Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis to the Lebanese people on 2 October--live or recorded]

[Text] Lebanese people: The deterioration of the security situation has exceeded every limit. Civilians in numerous areas have been and continue to be killed and their properties destroyed indiscriminately. There is fear that the pillars of Lebanon's structure will collapse. Such being the situation, we must protect the legitimacy of the country. This legitimacy must not be divested of its content. This content is based on the citizens, economy, construction and civilization. Of what use is a country without citizens?

Lebanon is suffering from the manipulations of international policy in the area and the existing crises. Political maneuvers are aggravating the situation while the country is weak, rendering it unable to confront them with the necessary strength.

Lebanon is now suffering from the actions of some factions on its soil--factions that often interfere with the Arab Deterrent Forces and then exploit the sensitivity aroused by any borrowed [musta'ar] security in some country, even if it is one of the closest fraternal countries.

The situation that has been created as a result of provocation by one side and as a comprehensive and violent reaction by another side has led to the death of many innocent victims. This has pained us very much. The recent events left almost no family without a casualty and no house without destruction. Not a single hospital is left in east Beirut to insure services to the wounded and the sick.

The homeless are being shifted from one village to another. It was natural, therefore, for me to spare no effort to remedy the security situation and to make the groups, through their leaderships, and the party leaders realize the dictates of their duties in the present circumstances. Despite all this, I did not receive the expected result. I therefore became convinced that this kind of suppressive measure against inhabitants and entire areas, whatever the reasons, does not constitute a remedy on the national level but complicates the problem further and creates a tragic problem unmatched in the world. Therefore, there is no doubt that the remedy must be on a wide national and political level so that all the Lebanese, in all their tendencies and factions, express their opinion regarding it.

In order to safeguard the safety of the citizens and the Arab Deterrent Forces I have decided:

1. To implement a new security plan within 10 days--a plan that will eliminate friction and that takes into consideration the situation I have mentioned, depending on the need to abide by the complete discipline and self-restraint required by the present circumstances.

2. To have the main Lebanese politicians participate in a new government. One of the first duties of this government will be to resolve our present crisis, particularly on the political level, in all its domestic, Arab and international aspects, and find firm solutions that will rescue the country.

Let the interest that is being shown by some international quarters be an incentive to the Lebanese in their different tendencies and inclinations to unite their ranks so that they will emerge from the tragedy and face all possibilities positively. We are facing a challenge the like of which the Lebanese have not faced either in their modern or ancient history. Let us eliminate this challenge by uniting our ranks so that Lebanon may remain for us. Long live Lebanon.

Sham'un Criticizes Message

NC021813Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Excerpts] Commenting on President Sarkis' message to the Lebanese people, former President Camille Sham'un said: This message does not deserve an answer.

Sham'un added: Following the indescribable destruction and ruin, Sarkis suggested a security plan instead of asking for the adoption of an international step to protect the security of the Lebanese and their property. This plan is rejected by the Syrians. President Sarkis has disregarded what took place at the steadfastness and confrontation conference in Damascus, where Syria was given a free hand to act as it wishes in Lebanon. He has also disregarded what took place at the Camp David summit.

Former President Sham'un criticized the proposal by President Sarkis to form a new government, saying: This proposal will not be implemented. He added: When Sarkis resigns, Lebanon and the Lebanese will know rest and we will begin a new chapter with those who will be up to the level of the responsibility.

Further Sham'un Comment

LD022250 [Editorial Report LD] Paris Domestic Service in French at 1820 GMT on 2 October 1978 carries the "Telephone Is Ringing Program" with a live, 35-minute interview from Beirut with Camille Sham'un, leader of the Lebanese National Liberal Party.

The program begins with a series of questions about President Sarkis' proposals for the formation of a new government. Sham'un responds to an initial question about his possible entry into a new government by saying he will not agree to be part of a government formed by President Sarkis, despite the respect he has for the president. As to the question of a new government in Lebanon, Sham'un says that is not the real problem; the problem is the Syrian Army. "The question is whether the Syrians wish to continue to occupy Lebanon or leave. This is the whole question. No, we Lebanese are not fighting each other, Christians and Muslims. As I have told you, we are not fighting the Palestinians--we are fighting the Syrians, because the Syrians are acting like an army of occupation and not like a peace force."

Asked whether Israel's intervention would be in anyone's interest, Sham'un responds: "Sir, I have not asked Israel to intervene. If Israel intervenes, it takes that responsibility on itself. I have not asked Israel to intervene. I will lead the fight to the end."

Asked about the possible use of UN forces in Lebanon, Sham'un says: "Ah, now there you hit on a conversation that I have just had--this very day--with the charge d'affaires at the American Embassy, at his request. He asked me the same question, and I gave him the following reply, which has been communicated, word for word, to the White House, to President Carter: First, the solution would be an all-round cease-fire decided on by the UN Security Council; second, there would be immediate withdrawal of the Syrian troops, who would be replaced by a UN peace force; third, the Lebanese will settle their own problems among themselves and if there are any difficulties they would be settled under the aegis of the United Nations; and fourth, all interested parties should be invited to the conference proposed by President Carter."

Sham'un is then reminded that Syria has already turned down the President's proposal. He answers by saying: "Syria has already refused and the Palestinians have already refused. And that is why, in speaking of the term 'interested parties,' Syria is not an interested party any more than are the Palestinians. To be an interested party, one must have the right to make such a claim. Well, since Lebanon is a sovereign country and a UN member, no one outside our country can make any claim or demand."

When asked about the future, Sham'un says that what is necessary is the withdrawal of Syrian troops, "and this withdrawal must be effected in a normal manner by an emergency meeting of the UN Security Council, which in turn will order a cease-fire as well as the withdrawal of Syrian troops. Then UN troops will be sent in to keep the peace for a period of 6 months, if not 6 months, then a year--until all the problems existing among the Lebanese, if there are any problems, will be solved. The UN troops would remain until such time that the Lebanese Army is in full position to keep the peace in Lebanon."

The program ends with a reminder to listeners that they have been listening to Camille Sham'un.

Al-Jumayyil Welcomes Message

NC022115Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 2015 GMT 2 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil has commented on the message President Sarkis addressed to the Lebanese this evening, in which he said he will implement a security plan in a maximum period of 10 days. Shaykh al-Jumayyil said that the Lebanese were awaiting this step which was emphasized in the message.

He said: President Sarkis has straightforwardly and seriously expressed what the people have been waiting for: the achievement of security, relaxation of the situation and protection of the lives of the citizens and their rights and dignity.

I can see that in the words of the president of the republic, as the representative of Lebanese legality, he has revealed what he wants, desires and aspires to achieve. The setting of 10 days as the maximum period for implementing the plan is an important point in the message, particularly since the people have become sickened by promises and talk and have become fed up with waiting, after suffering what no other people in the whole world have suffered. Words must be translated into actions. Setting a maximum period is an indication of the sincere determination to implement the plan. In this respect, President Sarkis can count on our readiness to help him in these crucial circumstances.

A telephone conversation took place between Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil and President Sarkis this evening. Al-Jumayyil asked President Sarkis to request the concerned parties to stop shelling the presidential quarters in Beirut and the suburbs in order to preserve the lives of children, the aged and innocent people.

Nationalist Movement Rejects Plan

JN031044Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 3 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 3 October--The Lebanese Nationalist Movement has rejected President Ilyas Sarkis' decision to draw up a new security plan within 10 days. The nationalist movement perceives that this security plan would entrench the security of the rightist militias. It also notes that the Lebanese president's position toward the present government will inevitably lead to the government's resignation and to the imposition of a new government formula isolated from any political consultations. The nationalist movement says this is a distraction from the real crisis that has been caused by the rightist forces supported by the Zionist-imperialist alliance. The nationalist movement has reiterated its rejection of the U.S. plan. It says that the allusion to this plan in Sarkis' message is an obvious attempt to use U.S. pressure against the nationalist forces.

PRIME MINISTER AL-HUSS SAYS GOVERNMENT HAS NOT RESIGNED

NC031025Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 3 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Regarding the comments on and reactions to President Ilyas Sarkis' message yesterday, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss has stated: I would like to make it clear that the government has not resigned. We have emphasized more than once that we are always prepared to go if the establishment of a new government becomes possible. However, we will not abandon responsibility if our going would cause a vacuum or a crisis in the government with adverse consequences.

As for the security plan referred to in the message, it has not been presented to us in the cabinet yet. Therefore, any talk about this subject at present is premature.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS ON SECURITY SITUATION 3 OCT

NC030648Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 3 Oct 78 NC

[Text] The capital, the suburbs and the areas which have been subjected to indiscriminate destructive shelling spent a night of shelling, fear and explosions less intense than previous nights. From midnight until this morning, only the sound of intermittent, concentrated artillery rounds were heard. The shelling was directed at times on some lines in Al-Ashrafiyah and at others on Al-Hadath, B'abda, Al-Antuniyah, 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and the northern quarter of the capital. Only material losses were reported during the night. Fires continued to rage in some buildings in Al-Ashrafiyah and the southern suburbs until this morning. Movement on the Al-Karantinah and Burj Hammud bridges is still dangerous.

Early this morning artillery shells fell near (?Musaylah) and intermittent shelling continued between the Sibnay and Al-Hadath positions and on the Sciences College line, where some clashes occurred at dawn. Sniping is continuing on all lines.

Beirut: Situation Calm

NC030733Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 Oct 78 NC

[Text] General calm prevails in all areas of the capital and suburbs this morning. Political circles consider this represents a state of expectation, awaiting the outcome of the contacts President Ilyas Sarkis will initiate in accordance with his message to the Lebanese people yesterday.

The president's message has met with a response which appeared encouragingly in the stabilization of the security situation, although there was some shooting and explosions on various axes last night.

Caution prevails on the confrontation lines. Nevertheless, political circles see in this relative calm, which has followed the incidents of recent days, a great and encouraging hope for reaching a satisfactory solution to the crisis--a solution that will restore normal life and familiar activities to the country.

Some Sporadic Shooting

NC030938Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 3 Oct 78 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss today continued his contacts with security officials to learn about the security situation in the capital and suburbs. He contacted Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman, the Arab Deterrent Forces Command and the other internal security departments.

According to reports, the security situation is satisfactory compared to the events of the past few days, when the security situation deteriorated badly. However, a state of tension and caution continues to prevail on the confrontation lines. Some sporadic shooting and explosions are heard from time to time.

Endeavors continue to be made with the various quarters to consolidate calm and stability in order to provide the political efforts with an opportunity of finding a way to end the tragic crisis the citizens are patiently and painfully experiencing.

INA: ISRAELI GUNBOATS IN LEBANESE TERRITORIAL WATERS

JN030945Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 3 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 3 October--Zionist aircraft and gunboats were visible off the south coast of Lebanon all last night. The INA correspondent in the south said that the enemy gunboats violated Lebanese territorial waters last night. He added that the ground resistance of the joint forces challenged the enemy boats and aircraft and forced them to flee. The correspondent added that the town of An-Nabatiyah came under artillery shelling last night. Three citizens were wounded as a result.

PILOTS ASSOCIATION CALLS STRIKE FOR 4 OCTOBER

NC030718Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 3 Oct 78 NC

[Text] The Lebanese pilots association has declared it will go on strike tomorrow, Wednesday, for reasons connected with the association's demands.

AMMAN AR-RA'Y: SYRIAN MILITARY DELEGATION IN MOSCOW

JN021613Y Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 2 Oct 78 p 1 JN

[Text] Amman--Exclusive to AR-RA'Y--Reports from the Syrian capital say a high-level military delegation has been in Moscow for 10 days to determine the types of weapons Syria needs for the coming phase.

The reports say that President Hafiz al-Asad, during his forthcoming visit to Moscow, will ask the Soviet leaders to supply Syria with sophisticated new weapons, including MIG-27 fighter planes and T-72 tanks, in order to establish a military balance with Israel, especially following the resolutions of the Camp David conference and the meetings of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON AL-ASAD'S VISIT TO ARAB STATES

JN290738Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 29 Sep 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting on President al-Asad's first tour of some Arab states, the newspaper TISHRIN writes under the headline "Al-Asad's Tour and Pan-Arab Participation":

The Damascus steadfastness and confrontation summit conference was not merely a demonstration of political protest against As-Sadat's treacherous course and U.S. collusion with Israel to take sisterly Egypt out of the Arab circle and put it in the imperialist circle. It was not merely a number of decisions holding As-Sadat responsible for the crimes he perpetrated and for that victory over the stabbed Palestinian cause and wounded Jerusalem. It went beyond this to draw up practical measures to foil the U.S. settlement schemes and to transfer the pan-Arab struggle from a defensive position to one real attack. This comes after the Egyptian regime has revealed a unilateral and humiliating reconciliation with the enemy which will paralyze the effectiveness of our Arab people for decades.

In fact, the results of the Damascus summit have circumvented the U.S. attempts to force other Arab states to follow in the steps of the Egyptian regime. Cyrus Vance returned from the Arab region emptyhanded. President Hafiz al-Asad's tour of some Arab states is considered part of the Arab counterattack in the face of the U.S. move. The tour aims not only at explaining the decisions of the Damascus conference and its concept of emerging from the current disintegrated Arab situation, but also at making all the Arabs take their part in shouldering the responsibility, because the ones who keep silent are in collusion and those who follow As-Sadat's steps violate the will of the Arab nation.

After explaining the efforts being exerted by those allied against the Arab nation as well as the cooperation among the Egyptian regime, Zionism and U.S. imperialism, TISHRIN concludes by saying: In fact, Syria derives its strength, solidarity and steadfastness from the faith and revolutionary purity of its people. Hence, Syria's challenge to the new imperialist reality seems amazing and difficult for analysts and planners to understand. Once Kissinger said of President al-Asad: I have never met with a tougher negotiator. If Kissinger were more fair he would have added: And a greater believer in the issues of his homeland.

VIETNAMESE DELEGATION LEAVES DAMASCUS AFTER VISIT

JN021720Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 2 Oct 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 2 October--The Vietnamese party and government delegation under Ha Ke Tan, Central Committee member of the Vietnamese Communist Party and minister in charge of presidential affairs in the Vietnamese Cabinet [title as received], left Damascus today winding up a week-long visit to Syria at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command. The delegation was seen off at Damascus International Airport by Comrade Taha al-Khayrat, Ba'th Party regional command member, minister of local administration and director of the Asian desk at the Foreign Ministry; the Vietnamese ambassador in Damascus and several party comrades.

During the visit, the Vietnamese party and government delegation held party talks with a Ba'th Party delegation on developing and promoting existing relations between the two friendly parties and countries. The delegation also became acquainted with the great accomplishments achieved by Syria under the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and visited several districts as well as the liberated city of Al-Qunaytirah.

In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Comrade Tan expressed his pleasure and thanks for the warm welcome accorded to him and the the Vietnamese delegation during the visit. This, he added, expresses the feelings and support of the Syrian Arab people for our cause and struggle. He also affirmed that the Vietnamese delegation's visit has been crowned with splendid success and achieved good results. Comrade Tan expressed pleasure at meeting with a number of senior officials in the party and the state, headed by President Hafiz al-Asad.

Regarding the party talks held between his delegation and the Ba'th Party, Comrade Tan said: These talks have been conducted in an atmosphere of confidence, friendship and understanding and expressed well the relations of friendship and solidarity that exist between the Vietnamese and Syrian peoples. Comrade Tan then stressed the stand of the Vietnamese Government and the Vietnam Communist Party in solidarity with the Arab people in their struggle against imperialism and Zionism for the restoration of the occupied Arab territories and the safeguarding of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to establish their independent state on the soil of their homeland.

Concluding his statement, Comrade Tan wished continued development for the existing relations of solidarity and struggle between the Syrian and Vietnamese peoples for the sake of a just world peace.

LIBYA

JALLUD RECEIVES ERITREAN LIBERATION FRONT DELEGATION

LD021844Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 1715 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Staff Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud at noon today at Ash-Sha'b palace received brother Ahmad Muhammad Nasir, chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Eritrean Liberation Front, and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by the head of the Arab Liaison Bureau of the Secretariat of the General People's Congress.

FOREIGN SECRETARY AT-TURAYKI LEAVES FOR NEW YORK

LD011752Y Tripoli JANA in English 1704 GMT 1 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, October 1, JANA--The foreign secretary, Dr 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, left Tripoli this afternoon to New York heading the Jamahiriyah delegation in the 33rd U.N. session. He will deliver the Jamahiriyah speech in this session on October 6.

The foreign secretary will conduct talks and contacts with several foreign ministers of sisterly and friendly countries regarding bilateral cooperation and issues of common interest and the agenda of the U.N. session.

The foreign secretary will also head the Jamahiriyah delegation to the extraordinary meeting of the non-aligned countries' foreign ministers which will be held at the U.N. headquarters to discuss the "Stable David" accords and the concessions given by the Egyptian president which absolutely contradicted the resolutions of non-aligned countries' foreign ministers conference adopted in Belgrade last July.

ARAB-AMERICAN PEOPLE'S DEBATE TO BE HELD 9-13 OCT

LD021522Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpts] The Foreign Liaison Office at the General Secretariat of the People's General Congress has issued the following press statement on the occasion of the holding of the first Arab-American peoples' debate in Tripoli from 9 to 13 October 1978:

The Great 1 September Revolution, which pursues fixed and unchanging positions toward the causes of freedom and peace in the world, believes in the usefulness of dialogs with all peoples in the world for building bridges of friendship founded on mutual respect and constructive fruitful cooperation for the good of the peoples.

In line with the concept of nonalinement and positive neutrality embraced by the Great 1 September Revolution--the Great 1 September Revolution which is part of the Arab liberation movement--the Foreign Liaison Office since late in 1977 has been in touch with certain popular organizations in the United States, organizations with impact and influence in U.S. society. This was done in coordination and consultation with the popular organizations in the Arab homeland with a view to holding an Arab-American dialog at popular level to discuss political, cultural, economic and information issues of interest to the Arab and American peoples.

The preliminary committee of the conference held several meetings to discuss the topics to be raised during the dialog. It was agreed that both the Arab and American sides would submit a number of theses dealing with U.S. policy in the Middle East and its likely trends; the importance of Arab-U.S. economic cooperation; scientific, cultural and intellectual exchange; the role of the information media in the field of Arab-U.S. relations.

A number of Arab and American popular organizations will participate in the dialog in addition to a number of specialists in the topics. Observers from various popular organizations in Europe, South America and Asia will attend, and so will many world writers and journalists. Delegations to the conference are due to arrive on 5 October.

In announcing the holding of this popular Arab-American dialog, the liaison office expects this first conference to achieve position results serving the interests of both the Arab and the American peoples and the causes of peace and liberation based on justice in the world.

MAURITANIA

OFFICIALS SAID TO PREFER OAU SOLUTION FOR SAHARA

PA301238Y Paris AFP in English 0635 GMT 30 Sep 78 PA

[Text] Nouakchott, Sept. 30 (AFP)--Mauritania's new military government prefers to let the Organization of African Unity (OAU) work out an overall solution to the problem of the former Spanish Sahara, occupied by Morocco and Mauritania, rather than enter into separate negotiations with the POLISARIO Front.

Official sources said here that the ruling Military Committee for National Recovery (CMRN) had taken note of the POLISARIO Front's decision at its fourth congress this week to extend its unilateral ceasefire with Mauritania. But the CMRN did not intend to make any comment on that decision, nor on the conditions laid down by POLISARIO, the sources said.

The conditions were recognition of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic proclaimed by POLISARIO, restitution of the part of the Western Sahara occupied by Mauritania and withdrawal of Mauritanian forces.

The new military rulers' determination to make peace with the POLISARIO Front was the primary reason they overthrew President Moktar Ould Daddah last July 10. The POLISARIO announced its ceasefire two days later.

The new head of state, Lieutenant Colonel Moustapha Ould Mohammed Saleck, has said repeatedly that the OAU would be the appropriate instrument for completing the peace-making process begun by the CMRN. This seems to mean that the military government does not want to enter into direct negotiations with the POLISARIO, nor do anything which might get in the way of an overall settlement.

This does not seem to conflict with the view of the POLISARIO itself, which concluded at its fourth congress that either the United Nations or the OAU could provide the framework for an overall solution to the Saharan problem.

The OAU is to set up a "wise men's committee" shortly to study the entire Saharan problem, including the Saharan people's right to self-determination, sources here stress.

MOROCCO

ATHERTON MAKES STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL IN RABAT

LD022302Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Text] U.S. roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton arrived in Rabat this evening from Tunis within the framework of a tour of a number of Arab capitals to explain the results of the Camp David summit conference.

At the airport lounge Mr Atherton made a statement in which he expressed his happiness at being in Morocco and added that he has come to Morocco to meet with his majesty the king and inform him of the results of the Camp David summit conference between Israel, the United States and Egypt.

Mr Atherton pointed out that his country's government has sent him to explain these results to the Arab leaders. With regard to his talks with some Arab leaders, he pointed out that these talks were fruitful and serious.

He was welcomed on arrival by Robert Anderson, U.S. ambassador to Morocco; the head of the Political Affairs Department at the Ministry of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; a number of officials of the U.S. Embassy; and others.

ALGERIAN FORCES REPORTEDLY COMMIT 'AGGRESSION'

LD022108Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Once again there has been an attack by the Algerian forces on a supply convoy belonging to the royal armed forces. On Friday 29 September 1978 this happened at a place known as Hassi Tilemsi west of longitude 8 degrees, 40 minutes, 15.5 km inside the Moroccan border.

The act of aggression began on Friday 29 September 1978 at 1600 and continued until the night. The Algerian forces committing aggression were made up of 40 vehicles--jeeps and trucks. The forces of the aggressors retreated to Algeria in view of the strong and brave retaliation by the supply convoy. They seized the opportunity on 30 September, Saturday, to strengthen their lines and came back with reinforcements, including tanks and armored vehicles. Battles then took place throughout Sunday which only stopped after the Algerian forces committing aggression were repulsed and pushed beyond the border. The battles resulted in a number of dead and wounded on both sides. The number of these casualties has not been established yet.

Hassan Protests to Boumediene

LD022134Y Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II has addressed a protest message today to Algerian President Houari Boumediene in connection with an attack on Morocco between 30 September and 1 October 1978. This is the text of the message:

To His Excellency Mr Boumediene, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria. Mr President: I wish I were resuming direct contact with you in order to talk about reconciliation and the plan for peace, but, I regret to say, I find myself compelled to contact you today not for that purpose, but to strongly protest to Your Excellency regarding the question of the aggression my country experienced between 30 September and 1 October 1978.

The treaty which outlines the borders between Morocco and Algeria was, as you know, laid down and signed by our governments in 1972 when the heads of the OAU summit conference were meeting in Rabat to bear witness to that event before our two peoples and before the Continent of Africa. On its part Morocco fully honored that treaty despite the fact it has not yet ratified it. On your part, you published the treaty in the Algerian OFFICIAL GAZETTE on 15 June 1973. The first article of the treaty is based on the map of Marsala, scale 1:200,000 north Sahara, 1964 edition. One of the places which has been the target of the Algerian aggression, and which is called Hassi Tilemsi, is 5 km, and the other 15 km inside these borders, which you have recognized as we did and as did all the states of the world.

I do not want to conceal from you the feeling of astonishment and amazement which I have. This is because the action on which the Algerian armed forces embarked conforms neither with reason nor logic. Such moves, if they do not clearly indicate that you want to widen the dispute that exists between us, are far from expressing that Algeria, being a state which honors its commitments, does not violate the recognized borders of its neighbors.

No one is unaware of the commitments any head of state has toward his people and his country; some of these require decisions which no farsighted man can implement without deliberation or the exercise of his will. Some were killed and others wounded--victims of the deliberate ignorance of a contract which is internationally valid. What do you want exactly, Mr President? What does Algeria want, then? I openly address this question to your conscience, hoping that I shall evoke sufficient frankness in the former African struggler, so that you let me have your reply to this question as soon as possible. Both you and we are fully aware of the degree of risks and dangers which are generally the consequences of waging wars. We live side by side with our soldiers and officers; this demands from us that we do not rashly expose you to futile fighting. I hope that in your reply to this message, your conscience will rise as a citizen from greater Maghreb to preserve what has remained of our neighborliness and our belonging to the same spiritual family and to the same continent, and also anything that might serve this end. Mr President, accept our highest regards. Hassan II, king of Morocco.

SAUDI DEPUTY PREMIER PRINCE 'ABDULLAH ARRIVES

LD020956Y Rabat MAP in English 0900 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Tangiers, Oct 2, (MAP)--Saudi Arabia's Prince 'Abdullah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy vice-president and head of the royal guard, arrived Saturday in Tangiers for a private visit to Morocco.

This marks the second visit Prince 'Abdullah has paid to Morocco in the last two weeks. During his last stay, the Egyptian newspaper AL-AHRAM said he met with President Anwar as-Sadat in Rabat for several days after the Camp David summit.

Prince 'Abdullah was greeted at the Tangier airport by King Hassan II's brother, Prince Moulay Abdallah. The Saudi Arabian prince is expected to stay in Tangier for several days. It is not known if the deputy vice president of the Saudi Government will meet with King Hassan II during his visit.

MAP CITES PARIS SOURCE ON ALGERIA-LIBYA DISPUTE

LD021032Y Rabat MAP in English 0917 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Text] Paris, Oct. 2, (MAP)--A dispute over the Western Sahara caused a rift between (?Algeria) and Libya at the "Arab hardliners summit" last week in Damascus, according to the Parisian publication "A Letter From Africa".

In their latest issue, "A Letter From Africa" claims that at the anti-As-Sadat summit in Syria, Algerian President Houari Boumediene urged the hardliners to break with Morocco and other Arab (?moderate) states that might back the Camp David agreements. Boumediene's motion was double-edged, said the publication. The Algerian leader "manoeuvered to cut off the talks between Tripoli and Rabat" over the Western Sahara conflict.

In this northwest African conflict, Libya has wavered between supporting the Algerian-backed "POLISARIO Front," which is fighting for independence of the territory, and Morocco and Mauritania, which received Western Sahara from Spain nearly three years ago. While the other hardliners only wanted to sever Egypt from the Arab world, Boumediene urged the summit to take harsher measures.

The French-language publication said that for Boumediene, "there was only one solution: Kill all the imperialistic dogs in the Arab world, starting with As-Sadat and King Husayn....

"Furthermore, the Algerian leader encouraged extremists, especially the Palestinian liberation front of George Habash, to beware the 'weakening' tendencies of the other hardliners", added "A Letter From Africa".

TUNISIA

ATHERTON MEETS WITH PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA

LD021938Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 Oct 78 LD

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Hedi Nouira today conferred with the U.S. roving ambassador in the Middle East, Alfred Atherton. The meeting was attended by Habib Bourguiba, Junior, private adviser to the president and the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry.

On leaving Tunis this evening, the U.S. roving ambassador expressed his pleasure on visiting Tunis once again to discuss with the prime minister, according to the desire of President Carter and U.S. Secretary of State Vance, the agreements concluded 2 weeks ago in Camp David, and to explain the U.S. conviction that the accords create a practical framework and a unique opportunity for talks that will lead to all-round peace for all the states and peoples in the area.

FITOURI MEETS CSSR COUNTERPART IN NEW YORK

LD302220Y Tunis TAP in English 1558 GMT 30 Sep 78 LD

[Text] New York, Sept 30 (TAP)--Mohamed Fitouri, Tunisian foreign minister, pursues his visit in New York where he presides over the Tunisian delegation at the 33rd session of the United Nations. He held talks Wednesday with Bohuslav Chnoupek, Czechoslovak foreign minister.

On the bilateral relations and the main present problems, especially the Middle East problem after the Camp David negotiations, the two ministers agreed upon the face that the condition sine qua non for the peace in that part of the world is the recovery by the Arabs of their occupied territories, as well as the necessity of recognizing the right to the Palestinians for the constitution of a state of their own.

On the level of bilateral relations, the two parties agreed to give a new impulse to economic, technical and cultural cooperation. In this regard, Chnoupek will pay an official visit to Tunisia this autumn. Besides, Fitouri also held talks with the foreign ministers of Yugoslavia, Bangladesh and Jordan.

TRIAL OF FORMER LABOR UNION LEADERS RESUMES

LD291100Y Tunis TAP in English 1610 GMT 28 Sep 78 LD

[Text] Tunis, Sept 28 (TAP)--The Tunisian State Security Court resumed Thursday the investigation of the former (?union) leaders involved in last January 26 events. The trial began last Sept. 14 before the same court presided by Mohamed Tahar Fatimi. Its postponement was decided so that the defense (more than 70 lawyers) could acquaint itself with the contents of the state's case (about 5,000 pages) in which thirty former union leaders [words indistinct] the former general secretary of the Central Tunisian Labor Union (UGTT), are involved.

Carrying out attacks aimed at changing the form of the government and inciting the inhabitants to arm themselves against each other and bringing disorder, murder and looting to the Tunisian territory. [sentence as received]

The Tunisian daily LA PRESSE reports that the defense lawyers intend today to demand a second postponement of the trial, having considered the delay already allowed to investigate the case too short.

Quoting defense sources, LA PRESSE also reports that five other defendants have recently petitioned Mohamed Salah Ayari, the principal president of the Court of Appeal, who is on the bench as president of the Sentence Chamber, with an objection to two deputies who are on the State Security Court Bench. The Court of Appeal had dismissed last Sept. 14 the first petition of that sort brought forward by the defendents Habib Achour and Abderrazak Ghorbal against the two deputies whom they hold to be at the same time judges and parties to the case. On the other hand, LA PRESSE, quoting authorized sources, reports that 4 defendants were bailed out last Monday. These defendants (from the Susah area) are Messrs Abdennour, M'hahhedi alias Lahmar, Teryal and Thabet.

In conclusion, LA PRESSE indicates that representatives (?of) French and Italian unions will arrive in Tunis shortly to attend the trial.

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO SECRETARY GENERAL COMMENTS ON SAHARA

LD301550Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 30 Sep 78 LD

[Excerpt] Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the POLISARIO Front, held a press conference at the end of the work of the fourth POLISARIO Front conference yesterday, in which he answered questions put by journalists who covered the conference. He said that any peace initiative or any search for a settlement of the Western Sahara problem must take into consideration the will of the Saharan people. He added that the Western Sahara problem is, first and foremost, a decolonization and national liberation issue.

Mohamed Abdelaziz confirmed in his closing speech at the conference last Thursday that the Saharan people were at the basis of all solutions, and that a solution could not be reached without respect for their recognized right to national independence. Answering journalists' questions, Mohamed Abdelaziz said that the resolution of the fourth POLISARIO Front conference to extend the cease-fire agreement in Mauritania was a historic decision of peace, but he recalled the necessary conditions for any agreement with Mauritania, which are: official recognition of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic over the whole of the Western Sahara territory; recovery of the territory occupied by Mauritania; and withdrawal of Mauritanian forces to the 1960 borders, with the Mauritanian borders being those internationally recognized after it had become independent.

Mohamed Abdelaziz warned against procrastination on the part of the Mauritanian leaders and said: We have not seen any substantial initiative from Mauritania. Answering a question on the contacts or the mediation efforts between the POLISARIO Front and the Mauritanian Government, he said that the matter was not merely an issue of mediation. The POLISARIO's attitude is (?noble) and it was first of all right to recognize the Saharan reality.

Answering a question on whether there had been a development in the Spanish attitude, and what the significance is of the presence of an official representative of the Spanish political party, the Union of the Democratic Center--the ruling party in Spain--he reminded journalists first of the responsibility of Spain in the operation of decolonization in the Western Sahara, confirming the danger in the situation resulting from the notorious Madrid agreement and pointing out that the responsibility of Spain, the territory's former administrator, is a full one.

[Algiers Domestic Service in French at 1200 GMT on 30 September 1978 repeats the above item and adds at this point:

[Questioned on the role that France can play and on the change [word indistinct] of that country, Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz considered that one could not speak about a change in the French position while France maintains a large military presence in Mauritania. He recalled that this military presence is not at all justified, owing to the cease-fire declared by the POLISARIO Front on 12 July. Mr Abdelaziz pointed out that the Jaguars, even if they are no longer making flights, have still not left their bases of aggression.]

The POLISARIO secretary general said at his press conference that if there were a desire for peace, it would be impossible to ignore the basic facts represented in the struggle of the Saharan people for its aspirations to independence and freedom. He expressed the hope that the Spanish Government would (?take these facts into consideration). On the other hand, he added that the United Nations represented a suitable place for a frame-work for decolonization to be put forward (?in consideration of) the Saharan people's determination to defend its sovereignty and national rights, rights recognized by all international organizations.

However, the POLISARIO secretary general confirmed that the OAU bears great responsibilities with regard to the legitimate rights of the Saharan people, pointing out that it is the duty of the special committee recommended by the Khartoum conference to prepare for the extraordinary conference of the Western Sahara. He explained that it is the duty of all those who speak of peace to work for it.

REACTION TO HOROWITZ' RESIGNATION REPORTED

La'am Secretary Comments

TA291356Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Sep 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel]

[Text] We now have MK Yig'al Kohen, the La'am Knesset faction secretary on the telephone. Good morning MK Kohen. As you have probably heard, it was a little difficult to extract from Minister Horowitz what his next step, or that of your faction, will be. So I shall try to extract this from you: La'am--where to?

[Answer] I hope the vast majority of La'am will indeed remain in the present coalition.

[Question] Also in the Likud?

[Answer] In the Likud, too. We have no other arena or coalition to work in. The alternatives are worse. We are only at the beginning of the negotiations and I am convinced that many others in the coalition share our views on the positions. It seems to me that the prime minister, too, will need us. It seems to me that the majority of the members of the faction--and as was demonstrated, also most of the members of the executive--are in favor of remaining in the coalition and in the Likud.

Minister Horowitz' step is very surprising. This is not the opinion he expressed the day before yesterday. It is true that he wanted to vote against, but there was no expression--either in his words or in his stance--of a desire to leave the coalition. I am very surprised by this, and I hope that we could somehow manage to explain to him that this is an erroneous move. Perhaps he personally feels that he cannot bear this, but I think he is mistaken and I hope we succeed in persuading him.

[Question] So you foresee a chance that he would once again retract his resignation?

[Answer] The truth is that he is quite stubborn and, after what happened over the other issue--during which I certainly supported him, with all the conclusions evolving from it--I think we have achieved quite a bit also in the Knesset Finance Committee as well as in convincing the finance minister that we must act toward substantial cuts in the budget. It seems to me that on this issue, too, we could persuade him.

[Question] When will the La'am institutions convene to discuss Minister Horowitz' resignation? I understand that this has come as a surprise to you.

[Answer] We heard this on the radio last night. I heard it coming back from a meeting in 'Afula. I contacted our members, and I hope this morning that we will consolidate a date in the very near future to meet and decide.

[Question] Yesterday, in Haifa, Yiga'el Horowitz called Minister Shostak, who in the end voted in favor of the Camp David agreements, the not-so-nice expression: chicken. What is your opinion about this type of relationship between two leaders of of the La'am faction?

[Answer] The fact of the matter is that today the personal relations are very good in La'am, and they are certainly good between the two ministers. What Minister Shostak did...there was no one among us who thought that there was party discipline and everyone expressed his opinion. Shostak, in fact, surprised me, too, because he always gave the impression that he would abstain. But what he did, he did. The truth is that this is something which--at least among friends--should have found expression, and not the way it was done: at the last minute and with only him knowing. But if he did that, it is done. [words indistinct]

[Question] MK Kohen, I understand from your words that La'am will fight from within and will remain in the coalition. I thank you very much and we take this opportunity to beg your pardon for the bad telephone connection. The call is from Tel 'Adashim, which is pretty far away.

Minister Shostak Reacts

TA291448Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 29 Sep 78 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] Health Minister Eli'ezer Shostak thinks that Minister Horowitz' resignation was done without the consent of most of the members of La'am. Minister Shostak says that he did not know about his colleague's intention to resign from the cabinet and that he doubts whether other members knew about it.

Correspondent Moshe Nestelbaum talked with Minister Shostak. [begin recording]

[Question] Mr Health Minister, do you intend to follow the steps of your colleague, Minister Horowitz, and resign from the cabinet?

[Answer] Certainly not. He should not have resigned. That was a hasty and uncalculated step, because there was no justification for it. In the cabinet--and this was found out even before the vote, and the cabinet accepted this--there were several ministers who were not too happy with this agreement, but still did not announce that they would resign from the cabinet because of it.

[Question] How would you react if Minister Horowitz calls on the members of La'am to withdraw from the Likud and from the coalition?

[Answer] I would react by totally rejecting it: not to withdraw from the coalition and not to withdraw from the cabinet; on the contrary, to strengthen it in the fight and the struggle it will face in the very near future.

[Question] Mr Shostak, do you think that what is currently taking place in La'am is the beginning of the dissolution of the political frameworks?

[Answer] Nothing is happening in La'am, nothing is happening in La'am. Minister Horowitz has resigned and he himself emphasized--I heard it this morning--that this is a personal resignation and not the dissolution of frameworks. Therefore, what might happen in Israel in light of this discussion--if there is a realinement, if there are changes in the parties--this is possible. It can certainly happen. However, the subject over which these changes would occur and this reshuffle would take place, would, I think, have to be on such a serious and important issue that such changes should really occur as a result of such an issue.

[Question] Mr Shostak, you decided not to follow suit and not resign from the cabinet following your colleague. Do you think that in taking this step you have the wide support of your fellow members in La'am?

[Answer] I think so. I have no doubt, for I know that on the day of the Knesset vote we sat, the entire faction, and decided under no circumstances to bring about a crisis in the coalition or in the cabinet.

[Question] Can one gather from this that Minister Horowitz's resignation was done without the consent of the majority of the La'am members?

[Answer] Without a doubt. It was done without the knowledge of the members and without the consent of the majority of the members. He said that this was his own personal conclusion. I doubt if even two other faction members knew about this. I certainly did not know about it, and I know from another three faction members that they did not know about it; but I do not know, perhaps some member did know about it. [end recording]

MINISTER HOROWITZ COMMENTS ON TIES WITH DAYAN

TA292041Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1820 GMT 29 Sep 78 TA

[Interview with Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Yiga'el Horowitz by Elimelekh Ram on 29 September--place not given; videotaped]

[Excerpt] [Question] Mr Horowitz, it used to be believed that Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan is the unofficial leader of La'am. You also established BAMA [Forum for Political Clarifications and Social Discussions] in fact to provide Moshe Dayan with a forum. Will you continue to maintain BAMA after it transpired that the foreign minister played such an important role in the agreements reached at Camp David?

[Answer] I don't know. I won't handle this. That is clear. I am very sorry about the role Dayan played, and also about his proposals toward reaching the agreement. But, make no mistakes, I'm less surprised by Dayan's support of the agreement than by Begin's support. Furthermore, I did not join the party with Dayan and I did not go with him to the Likud. I went to the Likud with Mr Begin. I went for the sake of those things, for the sake of Judaea and Samaria, in order to safeguard the accomplishments of the 6-Day War. I am very disappointed.

[Question] You are disappointed with Dayan?

[Answer] I am disappointed with the decision made by Begin, Dayan and 'Ezer Weizman.

[Question] What happens to you now, Mr Horowitz? Are you going back to business?

[Answer] First, I am a Knesset member; and mind you, I was also a Knesset member before and I was neither impassive nor phlegmatic. I was active and interested in everything, and this time as well I'll continue to be such a Knesset member.

HARIF COMMENTS ON SETTLEMENT 'FREEZE'

TA291456Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 29 Sep 78 p 17 TA

[Yosef Harif commentary]

[Excerpts] If proof were needed that the arguments surrounding the Camp David agreements that were waged in the Knesset--and which lasted for 18 long hours, until close to 0400--are not over, we now have the statement made by President Carter at the press briefing held on that same day, regarding the settlement question. The road to peace, with Egypt too--as Foreign Minister Dayan said--is still strewn with obstacles.

Is there a real chance? The extent of the caution that should be applied in evaluating matters is borne out in the argument that was conducted in the Knesset on Wednesday--not in the large chamber, but in the prime minister's office--between Mr Begin and U.S. Ambassador to Israel Samuel Lewis. Obviously this was not a personal argument between the two, but between the prime minister and President Carter. Begin very firmly insisted on his view, that we had never promised Carter that there would be no settlements in Judaea and Samaria during the entire negotiating period, meaning throughout the next 5 years. At that very same time Carter was holding a press conference in Washington, and according to press reports, vigorously disagreed with this view held by the prime minister regarding the contents of the commitment made by him on freezing the settlements.

If the reports in the press are accurate, Carter made two points that are very different from the prime minister's view: first, that Begin had assured him that there would be no settlements in Judaea and Samaria throughout the first 5 years of the autonomy; second, the settlement freeze would be intertwined with negotiations for an arrangement in Judaea and Samaria. This implies that if Israel puts up settlements in Judaea and Samaria 3 months from now then it is ostensibly violating a "commitment" made to the President and which has, according to all the indications, been communicated to President as-Sadat. Then, who knows, maybe the Egyptian president too will consider this to be a breach of what was agreed upon at Camp David.

Seemingly Ambassador Lewis was also wondering why the administration saw fit to continue this argument in public. Last week, it was mentioned by Brzezinski, the president's adviser on national security affairs, who--in order to prove the U.S. version correct--referred to statements allegedly made by Foreign Minister Dayan on his return from the United States. Now, even though the prime minister had reiterated his denial of this for the umpteenth time, the President repeated it at the press conference. This is odd, and thought-provoking: ostensibly, Carter, more than any other party to the Camp David talks, ought to be interested in letting this issue subside, at least in public. After all, he realizes the degree of Begin's sensitivity on this matter. What then is the point of dwelling on its publicly, even before the Knesset had arrived at a decision (was it to "facilitate" things for Begin, making it easier for him to persuade the members of his own party as well into supporting the Camp David agreements?)

Secondly--and perhaps chiefly--the prime minister promised the President when he took his leave of Washington, that to prevent any misunderstandings on this question he would state the Israeli stand in writing, in addition to the statements already made to President Carter orally.

Ambassador Lewis was called in on Wednesday to receive the letter Begin had promised Carter on the settlement freeze, after the prime minister had carefully checked the notes taken by Prof Aharon Baraq during the talk with President Carter, in the presence of Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. According to these notes, the prime minister declared to his advisers, there is clear proof bearing out for statements. (Begin: "If need be, I will consider publishing these notes.")

In his talk with Ambassador Lewis Begin most emphatically insisted--having shown the ambassador these notes--that he had not promised President Carter anything other than the fact that during the coming 3 months, during which the negotiations with Egypt are supposed to take place, Israel will not put up new settlements. The prime minister further reminded Ambassador Lewis, who had participated in the Camp David talks: I told President Carter ahead of time that what is termed "freezing" the settlements for 3 months would not extend to putting up Nahal strongholds, one on the Golan Heights (another within the green line, in the Negev) and perhaps one in the Jordan River Basin.

Everyone knows that the settlement issue is explosive. How, then, could such a misunderstanding have occurred between Carter and Begin? There is no single unequivocal explanation.

In any event, at the outset a "misunderstanding" has been created that could well develop into a very serious affair--let us not paint the devil on the wall--unless Washington finds a way of removing this argument from its agenda immediately.

On Wednesday, a few hours before Ambassador Lewis' arrival at the Knesset at the prime minister's invitation, the settlement issue arose in the special cabinet session before the debate. How the cabinet members would vote on the Camp David agreements was not the only thing mentioned at that session. Agriculture Minister Ari'el Sharon saw fit to make it clear that with all the pain that removing the settlements in Sinai entailed, he would vote for the cabinet resolution, but it must be clear that this sacrifice the government is making will be pointless unless it can "compensate" by expanding settlements in Judaea and Samaria, that is to say, "by fleshing out the existing settlements, and by new settlements." What is more: it transpired that Arik, who is charman of the Ministerial Committee on Settlements (settlement in the territories) already has plans prepared and waiting (only the money is lacking....) as to what and where.

The members of the cabinet gained the impression, from the way in which the minister of agriculture presented matters, that to him this was a question of principle on which he could not back down. In other words, if the government does not do what is required, Arik's future in the cabinet is unclear. So far as is known, the intention was to proceed with strengthening the existing settlements in Judaea and Samaria within the next few days. No practical discussion was held on Sharon's proposal, but at an earlier session someone (it was apparently Dayan) gave him a piece of practical advice: it would be far wiser for him, in these matters, to be doing instead of talking.

To be truthful, there was no need for Arik's "hints"--since the prime minister's mind is made up on this subject. He said this week, at one of his consultations: "We shall not let a single day go by after the 3 months (of the freeze). We must produce settlements. Let no one doubt this."

When the prime minister's plane landed in London for a stopover, enabling him to report to Britain's Prime Minister James Callaghan, the latter used an original phrase in congratulating Begin: "I thank you on behalf of the world...."

The administration may have made a mistake in the way it handled so delicate and complex a question. But if it should transpire that this was no mistake, but an intentional step to force Israel into refraining from now on, from any settlement activity in Judaea and Samaria, then the "world," to use Callaghan's expression, faces a very serious dilemma: that after such a dizzying success at Camp David, the leaders of the United States should find themselves in such an embarrassing situation.

BEGIN'S POSITION WITHIN HERUT EXAMINED

TA2917S1Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 29 Sep 78 p 5 Weekend Supplement TA

[Bina Barzel commentary]

[Text] The Knesset vote on the Camp David agreements ended with a major victory for the government but revealed Begin's weakness in his own party--Herut. Over a third of the Knesset members from the Herut faction--9 out of 21--voted against the government's draft resolution or abstained. Those who voted against were: Moshe Arens, Yosef Rom, Yigal Kohen-Orgad and Ge'ula Kohen; the abstainers were: Mikha'el Daiksell, Eytan Livni, Dov Shilansky and Yizhaq Shamir.

If that were not enough, one of the people closest to Begin, "Commissioner Avraham," who is better known by the name of Hayyim Landau, did not vote at the cabinet meeting thus manifesting his reservations over Begin's political moves (Landau is not a Knesset member, thus abstaining in the cabinet was the only way to manifest his reservations). There are those who say that of all the attacks on Begin during the past few weeks from his admirers and friends, Landau's abstention was the most painful.

Landau became famous for his unreserved loyalty to his commander from the underground. His loyalty to Begin became exemplary in the movement and there were even those who called him "Begin's shadow." There was nothing that could undermine the bond between the two.

Less than a year ago, when the prime minister wished to appoint a minister without portfolio to the government (thus, perhaps removing the tag of "except Herut and MAKI" which had been attached to the government) Begin recommended Hayyim Landau to the Herut center. This was after the presentation of the autonomy plan, which did not have many supporters in Herut, and the center was inclined toward recommending the appointment of Shemu'el Katz. Katz had at the time become the mouthpiece and main ideologist of "the faithful of the Herut Movement" and of a line of thought from which the prime minister had deviated either for tactical reasons, or out of mistaken considerations, or out of "betrayal"--depending on where the observer was standing.

Begin was then forced to struggle hard until he succeeded in overcoming Shemu'el Katz and bringing about the election of Hayyim Landau by a slight majority of 60 to 40.

People who know the prime minister explained the great effort that Begin invested in Landau's election with the following words: "Begin is alone at the top. Landau is the only man with whom he can talk among all those close to him in the government."

It is not surprising, therefore, that when Landau got up in the cabinet meeting and attacked certain details in the peace agreements and finally abstained, that this was viewed as a major attack on the prime minister. At the same meeting Minister David Levi said: "Nonsupport of the prime minister means that close friends have stuck a knife in his back." There are those who say that with these words Levi apparently served as a mouthpiece for what is accepted as the prime minister's view.

Despite the fact that the large number of opponents and abstainers from the Herut faction (which together with the opponents and abstainers from the other Likud faction reaches 16) points to some kind of organized rebellion against the leader of the Herut Movement, a close inspection shows that there is no such rebellion. All of the opponents and abstainers acted according to their conscience. But the vote did express the divergence that has developed over the past year between Begin and some of the best people in the movement.

An example of this divergence is Prof Moshe Arens, who serves as acting chairman of the center (the chairman is Begin), who is a kind of number two in the movement. There were times when Arens was spoken of as a possible successor to Begin and when ministers were appointed to the government he was offered the job of welfare minister. Arens, who has a technical background, claimed that he was not suited for this job and rejected the proposal. There are those who claim that Begin was not interested in having him in the government and maneuvered things so that he would not get in. Even before the ink had dried on the Knesset decision to endorse the Camp David agreements, people in the Herut Movement began to talk of removing Arens from office as chairman of the Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, maintaining that his opposition to the peace initiative disqualifies him from holding that office. However, Arens' removal will not be so easy since he has entrenched himself firmly in the movement during the past few years, among other things, through his job as chairman of the Tel Aviv area.

Two other people who abstained in the vote, Eytan Livni and Dov Shilansky, also point to the degree of divergence, estrangement and decline in trust between Begin and his followers. Livni, who was chairman of the Finance Department (who recently resigned when people who were unacceptable to him were brought into his department) was a lauded commander in the Irgun. Dov Shilansky is an old member of Betar and a successful lawyer, who made his name in the past by placing a bomb in the Foreign Ministry to protest the reparations agreements. Shilansky still believes in Begin and showed this in his Knesset speech. He mentioned several differences that he had had with Begin in the past in which it later transpired that Begin had been right. In a conversation with me he said of Begin, "That man has the expression of an eagle." Despite this, Shilansky abstained in the vote.

The same goes for Daiksell, who serves as chairman of the Organization Department and is regarded as one of Begin's faithfuls. If we add to all those who voted against or abstained also those members who expressed more or less serious reservations, we will find that a large number of Herut members are ideologically opposed to the prime minister and it is not hard to visualize a situation in which the ideological opposition will find manifestation in organizational aspects.

Since returning from the United States, Begin has, as far as is possible, avoided a direct confrontation with his followers in the movement. He rejected Arens' proposal to convene the movement's center to discuss the Camp David agreements and their implications. [paragraph continues]

It has been reported that Begin feared outbursts like that of Ge'ula Kohen this week in the Knesset. However, it is possible that Begin not only feared emotional outbursts but substantive criticism from significant members of the movement. Thus, for example, it is doubtful if he would have been able to overlook the abstention of Knesset Speaker Yizhaq Shamir. When Begin presented the autonomy plan to the movement's institutions, he said that Shamir supported it. Then Shamir sat and kept his silence. Shamir is not allowed to deal in the minor politics of Herut because of his office but before he was elected Knesset speaker he was spoken of as a realistic candidate to succeed Begin.

It should be remembered that over and above the ideological differences around the Camp David agreements there are struggles of interests between various groups within the movement, struggles for positions of power and for a possible successor to Begin. The debate on the Camp David agreements might pour some oil on the fire of the internal differences and make old differences more acute. A lot, of course, depends on how things will develop in the negotiations. At any rate, the spontaneous and unintended rebellion as manifested the day before yesterday in the Knesset vote may be a sign of things to come.

$3 BILLION TO BE SPENT ON SINAI EVACUATION

TA011421Y Jerusalem POST in English 1 Oct 78 p 3 TA

[By Shelomo Ma'oz]

[Text] Israel will spend about $1B annually during the next three years to transfer the Sinai airfields and army bases to the Negev, high-ranking sources in the Treasury yesterday told the Jerusalem POST. This is a cautious estimate, and the Treasury and Defence Ministry are continuing their calculations of the cost of moving the bases across the green line.

Defence experts last week told the newly formed committee of directors-general set up to study the economic ramifications of the Camp David accords that it will cost about IL30B just to construct two new airfields and new army installations and camps. These construction costs do not include the evacuation of Sinai.

This huge expenditure in Israeli currency will drastically alter the country's economic forecasts, especially since it is not yet known precisely what part the Americans will have in the outlay. Finance Minister Simha Erhlich will therefore suggest to the cabinet that it discuss the principles of the budget for the coming fiscal year without presenting any Treasury stand. Ehrlich will apparently make just one basic point--that without budgetary cuts by the various ministries there will be accelerated inflation. The ministers will then be required to agree on a set of priorities for government spending.

It will be the first time that the Treasury will not submit a draft budget, as was customary in past years. Only after the extent of American aid--civilian and military--is known, will the government be able to determine its priorities.

The government intends to hold two special sessions during the next few weeks at which only the economic problems arising from the political developments will be discussed. The first meeting may take place on Thursday.

By law the government should submit its budget at the beginning of January: but, due to the large number of known factors at this time, it seems doubtful that the draft it draws up will be the final budget.